

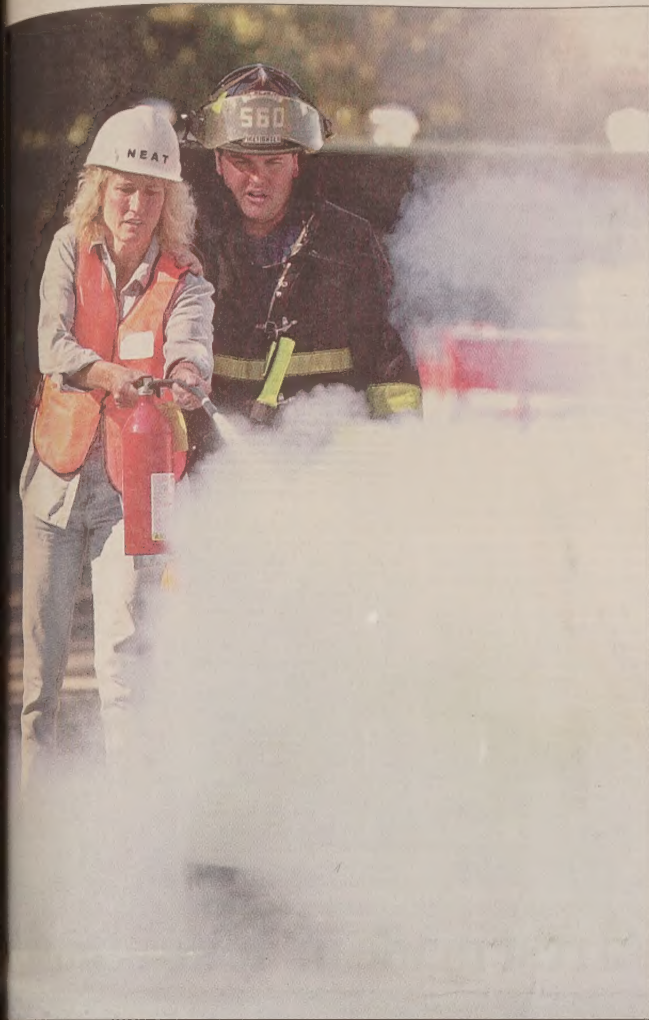
THE JOURNAL

Friday, October 19, 2001

50 cents (tax included)

Inside El Cerrito's cultural heritage embodied in art column [A3]

Special section 1991 Firestorm — the day the hills changed forever [C1]



STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

AN OUNCE OF PREPAREDNESS

EL CERRITO Fire fighter Tim Palmer watches as Peggy Wilcox douses a test fire during the NEAT (Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Team) skills drill Saturday morning at the El Cerrito corporate center. This week marks the 10th anniversary of the 1991 Oakland-Berkeley hills fire and the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, both vivid reminders of the need to be ready when the next emergency happens. Teams are prepared and respond in an earthquake, wildfire or other disaster, put out a fire, rescue a trapped victim, perform medical triage in the free, two-part course that includes classroom instruction and drills to practice new skills. For course schedule and reservations call Pat Catlett at 510-525-7268 or email catlett@juno.com.

Albany will vote on picking police chief

By Kate Darby Rauch

TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Voters will be asked on Nov. 6 if they want to change the city charter to require the top cop to be appointed rather than elected.

Albany is one of two cities in the state to elect a police chief. The other is Santa Clara.

Historically, more jurisdictions elected chiefs. But as rural areas became more urban, with governments springing up to manage services, appointing police chiefs became the standard.

The City Council, the city's Charter Review Commission, and many residents back the measure, which also has its share of opponents.

Supporters say appointing a chief — the City Council would do the appointing — is necessary to make sure the best person is hired for the job. To be elected to the office, candidates are required to live in Albany, have a master's degree and substantial supervisory law enforcement experience.

In a city of Albany's size, few people are believed to have these requirements.

Supporters also say having an appointed chief would improve accountability, since the chief would report to the city administrator and council. An elected chief effectively has no boss, except the voters.

Opponents of Measure C say the city hasn't had any problems with electing a chief and don't see any reason to change the system.

It's better to have some separation between a police chief and city council, because councils don't always understand law enforcement, opponents say.

Many measure supporters, including the City Council, have been careful to say their stance isn't a reflection on Chief Larry Murdo, who has held the post for the past 15 years.

Murdo said in the spring he planned to retire and not seek reelection when his term is up next

See VOTE, Page A14

ELECTION 2001:

ALBANY

Where: Albany

What: Ballot Measure C, which asks voters to change the city charter from electing to appointing a police chief.

Supporters: Say that appointing a chief greatly widens the candidate pool, since candidates can be recruited nationally. Candidates for an elected chief must live in Albany. They say that having an appointed chief would streamline management and increase oversight of the police department. An elected chief reports only to constituents.

Opponents: Say that electing a chief has served the city well. They say it's better for a chief to run a police department independently from City Hall, since council members and administrators aren't necessarily law enforcement experts.

Children need a place to play, residents tell shore park planners

By Matt Petersen

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Community activists and heads of nonprofit groups lined up nearly into the hallway of City Hall Monday to voice their opinions about the Eastshore Park project before the City Council, and the message was clear — there is a need for fields, fields and more fields in Albany.

"Like wheat in Kansas, the kids are our commodity," said Rex Higginbotham, president of Albany Little League. Higginbotham pointed out the scarcity of playing fields in the city and added that, "there are more kids in Albany than 10 years ago."

"We would thank you for any consideration for (more fields)," Higginbotham told Steve Hammond and Don Neuwerth of Wallace, Roberts and Todd, Inc., a planning and design firm that specializes in parks and open space.

Hammond and Neuwerth brought two alternatives to the Council for the Albany portion of the 8½-mile park on the Bay's eastern edge.

Discussion at Monday's meeting was peppered with planning jargon such as "level of intensity" and "inventory use rating," yet one idea was clear — that the areas surrounding Albany Beach, Albany Bulb and its neck and plateau will boast a shiny new recreational look in the near future. However, how broad the park's amenities will be is still up for discussion.

One glaring difference between the two alternatives is what kind of field will be allowed to be placed at the plateau. A state parks-mandated level of intensity might not allow Higginbotham and friends' voices to be heard.

See EASTSHORE, Page A7

Former resident reflects on days of Chung Mei Boys orphanage

The present day home of Windrush school was a home for Chinese boys from 1935-56

By J.R. Deaton

TIMES STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — When William Lee talks about life at the Chung Mei Home for Chinese Boys during the 1940s, he sometimes looks down and smiles that seems to be an embarrassed smile. He tells some stories only at his wife's urging.

Lee, now 66 and living in Moraga Hill, talked about his 10 years as a Chung Mei boy, and said that it was like growing up as a Chinese-American orphan in El Cerrito from 1940 to 1950 dur-

ing a tour of Windrush School Sunday.

There were both childhood joys and punishments at Chung Mei and it wasn't a bad experience, Lee said. But as he pointed out while standing in what used to be an upstairs dormitory, most of the boys living there would have preferred to be living at home with family.

"It's because of circumstances that you were put here," he said. "The first couple of weeks I was here I made myself sick," Lee said while inspecting the former infirmary and isolation ward.

"His guardian brought him here and left him and promised that he'd come back the next day," Nancy Lee, William's wife, said to explain the remark. "He waited and waited for two days and the guardian never came back and he made himself sick."

Lee was one of three honored guests, all former residents of the Chung Mei Home for Chinese Boys — at Windrush School's 25th anniversary celebration.

Windrush School, with grades kindergarten through 8th, has occupied the former boys' home since 1987. As the Chung Mei home, the building housed about 78 residents at a time, ages five



STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

WILL LEE, an original resident of the Chung Mei home for boys, tells stories about his 10 years living at the school, during the Windrush School 25th anniversary celebration last Sunday.

to 17. In Mandarin Chinese, "Chung" means "China" and "Mei" means "America."

"It wasn't an orphanage; it was a home for Chinese boys," Lee said. "I was an orphan, but there were many kids who had both parents still alive. There were some whose parents were divorced."

Lee lived at Chung Mei from the age of 5 to 15. The boys attended public schools; the

younger ones had to wear beanies that identified them as Chung Mei residents. In the 10 years he lived in the home, Lee said he never saw a Chinese student in the public schools who was not a resident of Chung Mei.

The founder, Charles R. Shepherd, was the son of Christian missionaries who ran missions in China. "He gave us a Baptist education," Lee said. "Every Sunday he took us to the First Baptist Church in Berkeley on Bancroft."

The school was originally in west Berkeley on Ashby Avenue on land near the railroad tracks, Lee said, because nobody wanted a Chinese home for boys in their neighborhood. The home moved to its new location and opened in El Cerrito in 1935 where it operated until 1956.

See CHUNG MEI, Page A7

Windrush anniversary recognizes site's past

■ The K-8 private school, now 25 years old, has been at its El Cerrito location since 1987

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Windrush School, grades K through 8, was founded in 1976 in Kensington and moved to the former Chung Mei Home for Chinese Boys at 1800 Elm St. in 1987. The Asian architectural features of the building remain and include the green tile roof, a large circular mural in the entry hall and protective aquamarine-colored dragons and twin lions above the main entrance.

The school's 25th anniversary celebrations Oct. 14 included a picnic barbecue, games and prizes for the kids and three honored guests — former residents of the Chung Mei home.

The El Cerrito Preservation Society toured the building last year with an eye toward getting the building placed on the Na-

See WINDRUSH, Page A7

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KNIGHT RIDDER

INFORMATION FOR LIFE

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Harding Carnival

Everyone is invited to the Harding Elementary School Carnival on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on the playground of the school at the corner of Fairmount and Ashbury avenues in El Cerrito. Game booths, entertainment, face painting, arts and crafts, barbecue, pumpkin patch and haunted house.

Homework help

The Albany Library announces the opening of their new Homework Center. High school students provide homework assistance in math and science for middle school and high school students. The Homework Center is free and is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, from 3:30 to 5:30. The Albany Library is located at 1247 Marin Ave. in Albany. Details: Julie Winkelstein, 510-526-3720, ext. 19.

Library book sale

The Friends of the Albany Library will hold their annual paperback and library discard book sale from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27, in the Edith Stone Room of the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave. in Albany. Details: 510-526-3720.

Socratic Circle

Does your brain need a work out? All ages are welcome when at Cafe Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave., presents Socratic Circle Discussions on Wednesdays from 5-6 p.m. Details:

510-527-2344.

Haunted House

El Cerrito is hosting a Halloween Haunted House from 6:30-9 p.m. on Oct. 30 and 31 at the Arlington Clubhouse, 1120 Arlington Blvd., to provide a scary but safe Halloween for youngsters. Tuesday, Oct. 30 the haunted house is for kids age 1-5. On Wednesday, Oct. 31 it's for kids age 6 and up. Cost is \$3 per child.

Family Fun Fest

The School of the Madeleine Fall Festival "2001 Space Odyssey", is 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Oct. 20 at the school, 1225 Milvia St. in Berkeley (enter on Berryman at corner of Henry). Family fun for all ages: game booths, prizes, face painting, baked goods, crafts, live band, silent auction and raffle, with a grand prize of a trip to Hawaii. A great community event to which all are welcome. Free. Details: 510-526-4744.

Internet instruction

Would you like to know how to surf the Internet, set up an e-mail account or check out a web address? If so, help can be found at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave. Library volunteers are available by appointment to demonstrate how to locate the on-line information you are seeking. The free, one-on-one, one-hour training sessions allows learning at your own pace and focus on the information that is important to you. For more information call the El Cerrito Library at

510-526-7512 and ask about making a one-hour appointment with one of the trained volunteers.

Fire area walk

Berkeley Historical Society's walking tour "The Berkeley Hills Fire of 1991" takes place from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Patrick Kelch, deputy director of the city's Public Works Department, will lead a 10th anniversary tour of the Berkeley portion of the 1991 firestorm area. He'll relate his hands-on experiences and observations during those eventful days immediately following the disaster. Walkers will assemble at the Claremont Hotel Bar following the tour. Tours start at 10 a.m. and last about two hours, are restricted to 30 paying participants and require pre-paid reservations. The nonrefundable donation for each tour is \$10 for the general public. Call 848-0181 for reservations.

Claremont house tour

The Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association presents its Fall House Tour on Sunday, Oct. 21, from 1 to 5 p.m. The tour, "Around the Claremont Hotel" features the interiors and gardens of eight houses, a church, and a club in the historic neighborhood surrounding the hotel. There will be a reception in the Berkeley Tennis Club ballroom. Tickets for the self-guided tour are \$25 for BAHHA members and \$30 for general admission. Call 510-841-2242 or 841-1055 for information.

POLICE REPORTS

Lawn mower theft thwarted

By K. Osborn
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — At about 7:15 p.m. on Oct. 8 a resident on the 700 block of Pierce Street reported that two subjects were in her yard and took her lawn mower. She challenged them and they left the mower and departed in an old dirty white pickup. Officers located the white '69 Ford pickup and arrested a 38-year-old Richmond man. He was cited and transported to the Santa Rita jail.

■ At about 6:30 p.m. an El Cerrito woman reported that while she was walking near Brighton And Masonic avenues four white male juveniles rode by on bikes and one slapped her on her bottom. She gave officers a brief description but they were not located.

■ On the night of Oct. 18 a resident on the 700 block of Johnson Street reported that a man that she knew was trying to turn off the electricity to her house at the electrical box. Officers contacted the 41-year-old Walnut Creek man and arrested him.

■ On Oct. 10 a resident on the 1000 block of Peralta Avenue reported that between the previous morning and the time of the report someone stole a laptop computer from his bedroom.

■ On the afternoon of Oct. 10 officers stopped a red '97 Dodge pickup near the Buchanan Street interchange for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 33-year-old Stockton man, was found to be in possession of drugs. He was arrested, cited and released on bail.

■ On the night of Oct. 10 officers stopped a green Nissan near Gilman and Second streets for a Vehicle Code violation. The driver, a transient man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested for DUI and transported to John George facility.

■ On Oct. 11 a resident on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue reported that thieves had broken into his red '95 GMC Jimmy parked in the garage area of his apartment building.

■ On Oct. 11 a resident on the 700 block of Taft Street reported that during the previous night

thieves broke into his white and green '67 Audi parked on the street.

■ On the afternoon of Oct. 11 officers stopped a white '89 Nissan on the 800 block of San Carlos Street for a Vehicle Code violation. The driver, an Albany man, was arrested for driving without a license and for an outstanding Albany warrant for driving with a suspended license.

■ On the evening of Oct. 11 officers arrested a homeless man causing a disturbance in a basement on the 1000 block of Kains Avenue. He was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and being in unlawful possession of a syringe.

■ On Oct. 12 a resident on the 700 block of Buchanan Street reported that during the night vandals slashed all four tires of her silver '95 Nissan Altima.

■ On Oct. 12 officers located a gold '94 Saturn on the 700 block of Taft Street that had been reported as stolen.

■ At about 4 p.m. on Oct. 12 officers arrested a 20-year-old Oakland man at a bank on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue for trying to cash a stolen check. He was arrested for forgery, possession of stolen property, conspiracy and burglary. He was cited and transported to Santa Rita jail.

■ At about 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 12 officers arrested a 31-year-old Albany man at a business on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue for petty theft.

■ At about 1:30 a.m. on Oct. 13 officers stopped a black '01 Toyota on San Pablo Avenue near Jones Street for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 27-year-old Rodeo man, was found to have an outstanding Oakland warrant for theft. He was arrested and taken to the Berkeley jail.

■ At about 3:30 a.m. on Oct. 13 officers arrested a 44-year-old man on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue for disorderly conduct. Later that afternoon officers responded to Solano and Kains avenues on reports of a man laying on the sidewalk who appeared to be injured. Officers arrested the 44-year-old man a second time for disorderly conduct and released him with a Notice to Ap-

pear. Just after midnight on Oct. 14 officers again arrested the 44-year-old man on the 1500 block of Solano for disorderly conduct. While in custody he became responsive. This time he was transported to Herrick Hospital.

■ On Oct. 13 a business on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that during the night thieves had broken into a business by breaking a window, stole items and departed with them. Police are investigating.

■ On Oct. 13 a resident on the 900 block of Ordway Street reported that thieves had broken into his blue '90 Honda Accord.

■ At about 1:15 a.m. on Oct. 14 officers stopped a green Volkswagen Jetta near Galois Street and San Pablo Avenue for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 27-year-old man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested for DUI, cited and released with notice to appear.

■ On Oct. 14 a resident on the 900 block of Cerrito Street reported that during the night thieves had broken into his '92 Ford Explorer and stole items.

■ On the afternoon of Oct. 14 the owner of a business on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue reported that two men and a woman entered his restaurant and stole money from the register. They were last seen departing north on Carmel Avenue in a black '90 Honda.

■ On the night of Oct. 14 man reported that his green Hyundai Alanta had been broken into while it was parked 555 Pierce Street.

During the week of Oct. 14 officers towed three vehicles, responded to nine false alarms, tended to seven lost or damaged animals, assisted four people who were locked out of their house or car and responded to four reports of a barking dog. In the domestic arena officers responded to 19 civil disturbance and 86 civil assists. Officers stopped 103 cars and ordered 183 citations. Firefighters responded to one fire call and medical emergencies.

New members join chamber

When it comes to signing up new members, things were busy at the Chamber last month.

Two firms, PagePoint and El Cerrito Dental Care, have signed on as full members. Meanwhile, two people, City Councilwoman Janet Abelson and resident Arthur Kuo, have become associate members.

The Chamber's new Web site is up and running at www.pagepoint.com/eccc. Designed and developed by PagePoint, the custom site includes information about membership, the board of directors, events and a directory of El Cerrito businesses.

■ The site also provides links to various community organizations and news sources. These resources are valuable for both member businesses and others interested in learning what's happening at the Chamber.

Web sites for other chambers have been found to be an effective referral system for member businesses. Visitors can learn more about the goods, services and amenities offered here and in surrounding areas. The City of El Cerrito recently redesigned and augmented its Web site and provides another resource for visitors, residents and businesses.

Kensington-based PagePoint offers Web solutions for small businesses, non-profits and academic research. For details call PagePoint at 510-558-1534.

■ Dr. Raymond Yu of the recently opened El Cerrito Dental Care office at 10586 San Pablo Ave., is one of the Chamber's newer members.

Yu, a 1986 graduate of dental medicine in Rangoon, Burma, came to the United States in 1989 and has practiced in Northern California for a number of years. In July, after working with Bright Now! Dental in Martinez, Yu opened his own general dentistry practice here.

El Cerrito Dental Care is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Ap-

SEWALL GLINTERNICK
El Cerrito Chamber

ointments may be made at 510-527-5944 or by fax at 510-527-5974.

■ Faced with the prospect of taking over as mayor by year's end and pledging to work for increased cooperation between the city and the Chamber, Councilwoman Janet Abelson has added her name to the Chamber's roster of associate members.

Abelson, 55, an El Cerrito resident since 1970, was first elected to office in 1999 and presently serves as the mayor pro tem.

As the mother of five children, all of whom have attended or are attending local public schools, Abelson has long been active in education here.

■ El Cerrito Arthur Kuo, while not active in business here, has chosen to become an associate chamber member.

Kuo's primary business lies in recruiting partners for a corporation being organized to develop a string of western-style fast-food restaurants, similar to Nation's, to be located in most of China's larger cities, starting in Beijing.

According to Kuo, the chain in China will be developed one city after another and will be operated under direct corporate management.

Kuo is seeking \$200,000 in capital to fund the plan. For details call 510-541-7271.

■ Three more firms have extended their chamber membership in recent weeks: Shields Nursing Center, Hacienda Restaurant and Woulf & Ury Jewelers.

■ Mayor Larry Damon will be featured speaker at the Chamber's next business luncheon, at noon on Tuesday, Oct. 23 at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club. Damon, an associate chamber member, will tell members what he thinks El Cerrito must do in his talk "This City's Future — Economic Development."

The monthly business session is open to Chamber members and their guests. Reservations are required and be made at the Chamber office, 510-233-7040, before the close of business today.

■ Tom Engberg, senior vice president of development for Regency Centers gave a talk on El Cerrito Plaza development at the Chamber's September business meeting.

Engberg said he saw the Plaza in 1982, when he worked for a firm that specialized in underperforming shopping centers.

"I have worked with cities all over," he said, "Working with El Cerrito's city staff has been a very, very positive experience. Rather than putting up hurdles the staff has worked with us to solve problems as they came up."

Tenants Ross and Bed, Bath & Beyond are already open, he said. The new Albertson's may be open by mid-December, and its old home converted to a Bally's gym. Slated to open in March are Barnes & Noble bookstore and Pier 1 Imports. Dress Barn, Shoe Pavilion, Starbucks, Cold Stone Creamery Ice Cream Store, Pasta Pomodoro, Rubio's Baja Grill and Macaroni Grill should open in spring 2002.

Engenberg said Regency intends to monitor the center to "prevent its becoming a parking lot for BART." He has been negotiating with the city for the past nine months, he said, on a proposal to locate the Measure C BART garage on Plaza property.

"I am preparing a letter now advising the city that Regency is ready to commit land for the garage either through purchase or within the context of a larger arrangement," he said.

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Creek advocates hear candidates

Council contender Tony Wise was not at the meeting held by Friends of Baxter Creek

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — The restoration of Baxter Creek is a high priority for the El Cerrito City Council. A councilman running for reelection assured a group of more than 50 people who gathered for a question-and-answer session last week at St. Luke's Methodist Church sponsored by Friends of Baxter Creek.

The city put its weight behind the applications for grants for Baxter Creek restoration," Mark Friedman said, adding that he believes negotiations are still ongoing over the price of the land needed for full restoration, and that, "If the City Council decides to kick in some money at this point, please don't hesitate to come to us because it is a high priority."

Friedman and two other council candidates, incumbent Gina Brusatori and Planning Commissioner Letitia Moore, also asked questions about topics ranging from Interstate 80 corridor development and San Pablo waste improvements to "tree-removal vs. view-seeker" tensions in the city.

Friedman and Moore agreed on the era of building "big-box" retail stores in El Cerrito is over. "We built the Target store in 1991 and spent millions and millions of dollars that I don't see recouped," Brusatori said.

She would like to see the development of offices and retail shops along San Pablo Avenue, she said, with affordable owner-occupied and rental housing that would be less dense as you move away from the avenue.

Store-front improvements, landscaping, street-side furniture and the tying in of businesses, retail and homes with creek corridors were among the possibilities she mentioned.

"El Cerrito doesn't have a downtown per se, the way you normally think of it," Moore said. "I think our San Pablo corridor is our downtown and we need to get some downtown revitalization for our city."

The corridor needs mixed-use development of small- and medium-sized businesses and housing, she said. "I think we need commercial nodes. We need housing, retail, offices, businesses close to each other."

Transit villages, development near BART stations, would encourage people to leave their cars home and to eat and shop near community centers, Moore said.

Discussion also focused on other issues, particularly trees. There's tension between view-seekers and tree-owners in El Cerrito, the candidates were told. The city needs a tree-management plan, both agreed, and stressed the importance of good relations between neighbors.

"We need to focus much more on budget on replacing our trees and having a much more



CITY COUNCIL candidates Letitia Morre, Gina Brusatori and Mark Friedman took part in last week's panel hosted by the Friends of Baxter Creek. Candidate Tony Wise did not attend.

systematic way of maintaining our healthy trees," Brusatori said. Good tree-management is more than just planting new ones, Moore said. It includes trimming and possibly cutting down, but not "willy-nilly going around cutting down trees without a plan in mind and a purpose in mind."

Council candidate Tony Wise, an El Cerrito businessman who is on the city's Economic Development Board, did not attend the forum.

Irma Anderson and Tom Butt, Richmond candidates for mayor, also attended Thursday's FOBC forum. Richmond City Council candidates at the forum were in-

cumbent Charles Belcher (running for the two-year term), Courtland "Corky" Booze, Rachel McGee, Adrienne Harris and Jim Rogers.

Art column of El Cerrito history, culture finds home at new art center

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Eve Ma, president of Celebrating Culture and Community, officially presented the city with the El Cerrito Community Art Column at the Canyon Trail Art Center grand opening Oct. 3.

The art column, sponsored by CC&C and Sustainable El Cerrito, and designed and built by El Cerrito artists, was part of the county's Art's Millennia, year 2000, Celebration at the Concord Pavilion and later toured the county.

The column is three-sided and 8 feet tall. Various scenes of El Cerrito's cultural heritage and past are depicted on the column, including the Chung Mei Home for Chinese Boys (now Windrush School), the Rust blacksmith shop where Pastime Hardware now stands, and the old Bates and Borland Quarry.

"The pictures on the sides are all from historical photographs," Ma said. "Then you also see the Bay and the hills and a lot keys on the column represent the fact the El Cerrito is a city of homes."

"Every community in Contra Costa County created one and they toured the county during the year 2000," Ma said. "Now it has found a permanent resting place in El Cerrito which is where it belongs."

According to Recreation Department staff, the art column will remain on public display at the Canyon Trail Art Center. CC&C, founded in El Cerrito and now based in the International



ARTIST DENYSE BIAGI and Fred Jackson and Eve Ma of Celebrating Culture and Community pose with the El Cerrito Art Column at the Oct. Canyon Trail Art Center.

Marketplace in San Pablo, is a cultural diversity in East Bay, non-profit group that showcases with a focus on West County.

NEWS BRIEFS

Art classes at Canyon Trail

EL CERRITO — The city Recreation Department is offering Art Classes at the Canyon Trail Art Center for Children, Youth, Adult and Senior starting this week. The classes are 8 weeks long. For more information call the El Cerrito Community Center, Lila 510-215-4370.

Windrush-sets kindergarten night

EL CERRITO — Windrush School's Kindergarten Information Night is on Thursday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. A middle school information event is planned for Thursday, December 6 at 7:00pm. The picturesque four-acre cam-

pus is in El Cerrito two blocks east of the Del Norte Bart station at 1800 Elm St. Facilities include separate elementary and middle school wings, a full-size gymnasium, a library, an art studio, a computer lab, a garden and outdoor play area, with a turf sports field. Further information is available from 510-970-7580 or from www.windrush.org.

Help you teen improve study skills

EL CERRITO — "How To Help Your Teen Improve Study Skills" is the topic of a workshop for parents of teenagers from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1, at El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury Ave., Room 812. A panel of experts in Learning Styles will lead the discussion. The free

workshop, open to everyone, is the second in a year-long series intended to assist parents of teenagers. Workshops are held the first Thursday of every month. They are co-sponsored by the El Cerrito High PTSA and West Contra Costa Adult Education. No babysitting is provided.

For details call Doug Spangler at the WCC Adult Education's Parent Education Office, 559-2660 ext. 205.

Candidates night set for Democratic Assembly hopefuls

EL CERRITO — The public is invited to a Candidates Night at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 27 sponsored by the Democratic Party.

See BRIEFS, Page A6

Natasha on Carpets

NATASHA EILAND AND BAKU
"Urine stains from pets on Oriental Rugs! They present a special problem because urine actually changes the chemical composition of dyes once it has had a chance to set. The best strategy is to sop up as much as you can, as fast as possible. Then rinse the area with a solution of water and distilled vinegar - about one tablespoon of vinegar per cup of water. Do not use off-the-shelf stain removers on Oriental Rugs."

This Week at Emmett Eiland's ... New Fall shipments have arrived: antique rugs have been cleaned and repaired and are ready to show. Stop by this weekend.

If you have any questions for Natasha Eiland about rugs, please send an email to: info@internetrugs.com or write her at: 1326 Ninth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

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Opinion

Assume it will happen again

Vigilance. Perhaps that's the most concise summation of the lessons of the 1991 fire that devastated the Oakland-Berkeley hills. It's a lesson that everyone fortunate enough to live in the East Bay hills stretching from Oakland north to El Cerrito should heed. The rural setting in an urban area that makes the hills so attractive as a place to live also makes them a dangerous place to live unless precautions are taken to decrease the risk.

That is where vigilance enters the picture.

Vigilance means making the assumption the next fire will happen, as it will, and knowing what to do.

But vigilance takes many forms beyond merely reacting to a fire or other disaster (the hills, home to the Hayward fault, are also earthquake country and the same lessons apply).

Vigilance also means looking ahead and preparing in advance for the inevitable.

It means learning the meaning of "defensible space" (reducing the amount of vegetation immediately next to your home) and putting it into practice.

It means having a plan in place for when a disaster does happen.

Complacency is a fact of life, and the more time that passes after a disaster, the more complacency takes hold.

But the lessons of 1991 are undeniable and hindsight gives us the opportunity to have foresight. Residents today can take the relatively simple steps that any survivor of 1991 would gladly have taken if given the chance to go back in time before disaster struck.

It means the opportunity to take the free emergency preparedness training offered in Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, Kensington, Oakland and Piedmont, before disaster strikes again.

Disaster will strike. It's vigilance that will give us the best chance of surviving it.

VIEWPOINT

Campaign sign funds redirected to disaster relief

This continues our offering of space to candidates for El Cerrito City Council to put their views before the public in their own words. On Sept. 28 we ran a piece by Tony Wise. This week we hear from Mark Friedman. In future weeks we will hear from candidates Gina Brusatori and Letitia Moore.

By Mark Friedman

This is a particularly troubling time for many of us. In the aftermath of last month's tragic events on the East Coast, the last thing on many people's minds is our upcoming City Council election on Nov. 6.

In recognition of this situation and in order to help our dedicated firefighters raise funds for the families of fallen New York firefighters, I have decided to forego the expense of campaign signs and to donate money to the El Cerrito Firefighters fund for New York relief.

One thing that the tragedy in New York has made clear is the importance of local government. The firefighters and police of New York were first on the scene and remain on the scene, putting themselves at risk to save lives.

The mayor of New York has been roundly praised for the compassionate and tireless way he has dealt with the crisis. Helping a community pull together in times of crisis and to meet challenges is one of the most critical roles of city government.

Here in El Cerrito we have not had to face such a tragedy and we pray that we never will, but it is imperative that we have wise and caring leadership to help us prepare for whatever comes.

Our right to vote is central to the freedoms that are the core of democracy. I urge my fellow El Cerrito residents to evaluate carefully and make every effort to cast their votes on Nov. 6.

I hope that as you evaluate the candidates you will decide to return me to office for another term. In the four years I have had the privilege of serving the community, I have always tried to treat everyone with respect

and good humor and make decisions that are in the short and long term best interests of all our citizens.

Among the initiatives I have spearheaded or supported are:

- Revitalizing the El Cerrito Plaza

- Creating and implementing an economic development plan initiative

- Increasing our budget reserves to the highest level in history

- Restoring our creeks and protecting the environment

- Protecting our children from tobacco marketing and sales

- Opening new quality child care facilities

- Working to improve the quality of our public schools

- Building a new swim center and improving our streets and parks

- If you and your neighbors elect me to serve another term my priorities will be to:

- Support our firefighters, police and community to prepare for disasters

- Continue efforts for sustainable economic development

- Work with the school district to improve playing fields and after-school opportunities for our children

- Work to build a new BART Parking Garage and shuttle bus system

- Build a new civic center without new taxes that will include a senior center, library, historical museum, and city hall

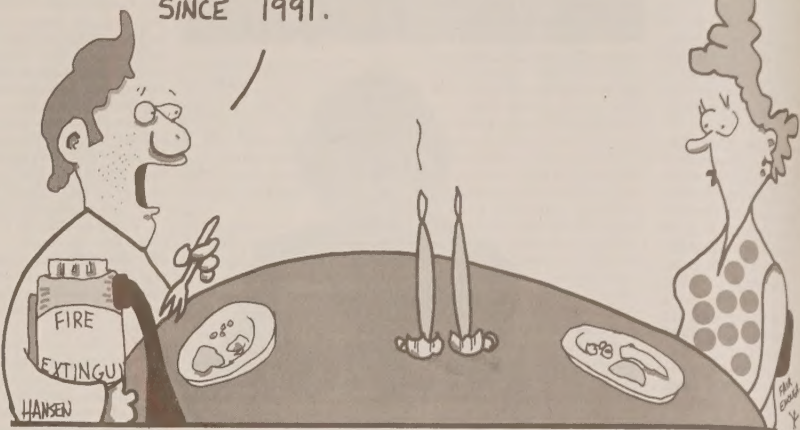
- Create our first arts commission to encourage our local arts community

So, please join the El Cerrito Professional Firefighters Association, the Sierra Club, the El Cerrito Democratic Club, Congressman George Miller, Assemblywoman Dion Aroner, Supervisor John Gioia, West Contra Costa Unified School District board member Glen Price, the Contra Costa Central Labor Council, members of the business community and many of your neighbors in supporting the effort to re-elect Mark Friedman on Nov. 6.

Mark Friedman is an incumbent City Councilman.

IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE THE HILLS FIRESTORM

HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN THIS WAY? ONLY SINCE 1991.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Peace via peace

From the depths of the sickening destruction and terrifying chaos of Sept. 11, an urgent message rises up: Terrorist acts, or any type of violence against others, is disgusting and wrong and has to stop.

But you can't stick guns into the faces of those who believe in violence and force them to change their beliefs.

What we resist, persists, and even becomes stronger. Fighting a war against violence could only gain us more violence. Only by being peaceful can we get to peace.

If we truly want world peace, each and every one of us must first be at peace with ourselves.

Of course let's not support those countries who support terrorism. They don't have to be our friends, but they don't have to be our enemies either. The gulf war taught us that dependence on other countries for our very survival as a nation is not to our advantage.

We can take this opportunity to begin to extract ourselves from that dependence.

Let's bond together with the legion of countries who recognize the uselessness of these acts of violence, to form a strong, thriving international community. The others can fend for themselves.

Heather Marsters
Berkeley

Listen to youths

The tragedy that hit us on Sept. 11 was clearly a devastating blow on our nation. The economy, the culture, and even the lives of people have been destroyed.

But we must look away from the negative and focus on the positive of the whole situation. This positive is the world uniting!

People, especially the youths of America (18-24 years), have come together to donate blood, volunteer their time, and even protest war. These issues affect our lives. We youths of America need a voice and the Youth Vote Coalition of California will give us that voice we so desperately need.

The coalition helps inform youths about issues that coincide with their lives and they demand politicians to begin to pay attention to youth issues. The exclusion of the youths of America is a dangerous trend that will definitely hurt the nation in the long run.

Democracy is diminishing without the voices of the youths and with the aid of this coalition youths can get their ideas heard and issues solved.

Thank you, Youth Vote Coalition of California, for its efforts to help the future of America.

Sumant Chakravarthy
Berkeley

Puzzling opposition

In response to the letter titled, "Lots

of questions," the Alternative Education Learning Center Charter School is not "so-called."

With a room full of community supporters, the school submitted its plan for school board approval on May 17, 2000. After working with district officials to refine the plan, the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board approved the charter plan on Jan. 17. The California State Board of Education granted the charter on March 20.

Melita Agbabiaka, the learning center's founder, has a BA in biology, a teaching credential, an administrative services credential, an MA in counseling psychology, an MA in school administration services, a Ph.D. in clinical psychology, and is a marriage and family therapist intern.

I have worked with her for two years in the PTA, where she is serving as president of the Stege Elementary PTA and treasurer of the Bayside Council of PTAs. I can't think of anyone more qualified to run this charter school.

I don't understand the NIMBYism the charter school has encountered in its search for a location. This, from the community it is trying to serve and improve through the education of its children.

I don't see the charter school as a problem, but rather a solution. I hope the community will renew its support.

Linda Takimoto
El Cerrito

Takimoto is the president of Bayside Council of PTAs.

Protect all Americans

A second wave of terrorism has been occurring in America.

Bigotry, violence and hatred have been unleashed against Americans who may look or dress differently from most white Americans. Some are afraid when they leave their homes.

As third generation Japanese Americans, we must speak out in support of the Muslim and Arab American communities. We know the pain of being the target of such feelings. More than 120,000 of us, our own parents, and friends became prisoners of war after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Lasting psychological and emotional scars move us to proclaim: "This must never happen again!" As Americans believing in the democratic process, we cannot allow violence and discrimination to fall blindly on anyone who looks "different" or "like the enemy."

Let us learn from our past. We urge everyone to show acceptance of and support for the Muslim and Arab American communities.

Interrupt acts of bigotry, stereotyping, hatred, or ignorance. Reach out to Muslims and Arabs in your communities. Tell your leaders to protect the rights of all Americans and immigrants. Become the person you would want to have standing up for you if such acts were directed

against you.

Marion Hironaka Cowee
Albany
Kay Yatake
Jill Shiraki
El Cerrito

The writers of this letter are members of Sansei Legacy Project.

Hold it in!

If you gotta poop, don't go near BART. Be sure you wear a diaper if you ride on BART. All the rest rooms are closed. What can we do? Please ask BART to place porta-potties in the parking lot.

Sidney Steinberg
Berkeley

Wise stands out

Another year, another election. There is only one candidate who stands out among the four running for three seats on the El Cerrito City Council.

Yes, El Cerrito is a city of homes, but today land costs are high, building material costs are high and wages are high. The City Council candidates who advocate low-cost housing are deluding themselves and the public. You want something, you pay for it. In the end, with low-cost housing in a market such as El Cerrito, the consumer pays for it.

Tony wise is the only candidate running who makes honest sense. Too many candidates say what they think the electorate wants to hear and not what they need to hear.

Ask the other candidates how they plan to achieve low-cost housing. Ask them!

Roy Mespelt
El Cerrito

Mespelt is a former El Cerrito mayor.

Protect water supply

Excuse me for asking this, but why do we have such a strong military presence in airports when it is clear from the recent altercation in the cockpit of an United flight going from Los Angeles to Chicago that their presence is merely ornamental?

Let's try to think the way people who want to harm us would think. What do human beings need more than anything to survive? Water. Why aren't our National Guard and other military guarding all reservoirs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?

Think about it. Terrorists hijack tankers full of gasoline with the MTBE additive. Terrorists dump the gasoline in all the reservoirs providing water to Los Angeles and/or San Francisco. Mass panic ensues.

I am glad that, at the very least, according to Fox News, the military is starting to tap the creative community for terrorist scenarios. But this is just common sense. Please let's be prepared.

Abiud Amaro
Albany

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Memories of firestorm tragedy are still burning bright

Where were you when it happened? That's the question those who lived through the great firestorm of 1991 asked each other for years afterward. I was driving on Highway 24 toward the Caldecott Tunnel. Suddenly, the hill above the tunnel burst into flame, like a giant matchstick. The next thing I knew, dozens of cars were coming at me in the wrong direction. "Uh-oh!" I said to myself, "I'm out here!" And I jumped the divider and headed back toward Oakland.

I pulled over at the first phone booth and called the Oakland Tribune, where I was working at the time. Since it was Sunday morning, the only person on duty was an entry-level gofer.

"There's a terrible fire in the hills," I screamed into the phone. "It's the worst thing I've ever seen! Call everyone and get them in here!"

Apparently, I wasn't emphatic enough, because when the regular editor strolled in for his shift a half-hour later, he asked the gofer, "Anything going on?" And the gofer replied, "Not much. Just a phone call from Martin Snapp saying there's something burning in the hills."

I drove home to make sure my cat was OK, then to a friend's house a few blocks away. He had a deck on his roof, and we watched the fire burn from there.

Mouths agape, we watched helplessly as the fire marched down the hill, devouring house



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

after house as it went. That's when I learned that houses don't burn up in fires that big; they explode.

"It was awesome — literally. The fire dwarfed the firefighters and their equipment. It was clear that nothing mere human beings did was going to affect it. If a miracle didn't happen, and soon, it was going to burn out all of Berkeley, all the way to the Bay. Then the miracle happened — two miracles, actually. On the Oakland/Piedmont side, the fire finally came to a stop at Mountain View Cemetery, whose 250 acres of greenbelt acted as a natural fire break. "A case of the dead helping the living," said manager Ricard Wydogren.

And on the Berkeley side, the wind shifted in the late afternoon, blowing the fire back on itself.

The next few days were spent frantically calling around to find out if my friends in the hills were safe. They were, but I didn't find out about the last one until Thursday.

It was the worst disaster I had ever lived through — worse than even the Loma Prieta earthquake, and believe me, the earthquake was plenty bad enough.

But the first day wasn't the worst. Day One was terrifying, but the days that followed tore your heart out. Stories of suffering always do.

And why does it always seem to be the good who suffer? The survivors I met faced the destruction of their dreams with a nobility that I can only hope to emulate. I never heard a single note of self-pity. Ever.

And I never saw that kind of nobility again — that is, until last month, when I watched the people of New York cope with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

I raised this comparison when I re-interviewed some firestorm veterans for this issue. And to their credit, every single one flatly rejected it.

"Compared to what they're going through in New York, what happened to us seems pretty insignificant," said Dawn Mottier, who lost almost everything she had in the fire, including several beloved cats.

"I wouldn't flatter myself that our guys went through anything like what our brothers in New York suffered," said former Berkeley Fire Chief Gary Cates. In fact, the only comparison they'll grant is one voiced by Matt Cord, a young man who pitched in to help Berkeley firefighters combat the blaze.

"You know how they're saying that the TV images don't really tell you how bad it is at Ground Zero?" he says. "It was the same way with the fire. Unless you saw it in person, you'll never know how terrible it re-

ally was."

So many memories flooded back into my mind. I think of the nuns at Holy Names College, who prayed to the founder of their order, Mother Marie Rose Durocher, to save their school from the approaching flames. You may or may not believe in the power of prayer, but the fact remains: Holy Names was saved, even though the surrounding area was completely devastated.

I think of Sam Richards, a 90-year-old Marine aviator of World War I, who was the last survivor of his unit. They had formed a Last Man's Club when the war ended in 1918: They bought a bottle of French wine and agreed that the last man alive — whoever he turned out to be — would open it and drink a toast to the others.

That last man turned out to be Sam Richards. On Oct. 19, 1991 — the night before the fire — he opened the bottle at a gala banquet given in his honor and shared a taste with everyone. (I was one of those who got a sip, and it was delicious!)

Ironically, Richards was one of the main reasons why the fire wasn't worse than it was. After he got out of the Marines, he pursued his love of flying by flying fire-fighting missions for the Forest Service. That's where he invented the flame-retardant chemical that they drop on fires to douse the flames.

When World War II broke out he tried to re-enlist in the Marines. But they turned him

down because he was too old. So he joined the Army instead, where he ended up as Eleanor Roosevelt's personal pilot during all her tours of military bases in the South Pacific. The next day, he was burned out by the fire. Despite the firefighters' pleas, he refused to leave his home until he found his cat, Buster. But Buster was found in the nick of time, and they both got out safely.

I think of Betsy Ward and David Schajotovic, who — after a long search — had finally found themselves their dream home on Broadway Terrace. "We signed the final papers at 11 a.m.," said Ward. "By 2 p.m. it was burned to the ground. Do you think God is trying to tell me something about this relationship?"

I think of Alice Terhune, who taught me a lesson about priorities when I asked her which items one instinctively saves in such situations. "Kids, pets and family pictures, in that order," she said. "Anything else can be replaced."

I think of Esther Rasmusson, who went back to her neighborhood on Contra Costa Road after the fire to find her house burned to the ground. Even worse, her cat, Mr. Fox, was missing.

Then she remembered that Mr. Fox likes to listen to classical music. So that night, she left behind a transistor radio tuned to classical station KKHJ.

When she returned the next morning, she found Mr. Fox curled up asleep next to the radio.

But most of all, I think of Dudley the dog. He was a 10-year-old German Shepherd mix

owned by Virginia Smith, one of the 25 people who died that terrible day. When rescuers found Dudley in the ruins of Smith's home on Charing Cross Road, he was huddled next to her body.

"All four paws were terribly burned, but he wouldn't leave her side," said a firefighter. "We literally had to drag him away."

Dudley was rushed to Berkeley Dog & Cat Hospital, where Dr. Alan Shiro lovingly treated his burns. But he barely moved. He barely ate. He'd lost the will to live.

Meanwhile, Cari Macchitelli, a receptionist at the hospital, was frantically calling around, trying to locate Smith's husband, Stanley, who wasn't home when the fire struck.

Finally, after three days of diligent searching, she found him. He was staying with his brother in San Leandro. "I'll be right there!" he said.

Now, you know how long it usually takes to drive from San Leandro to Berkeley. Would you believe he made it in 15 minutes?

Dudley was still in the back room. But as soon as he got a whiff of his dad's scent, he started crying louder than you've ever heard a dog cry in your life.

"We brought him out, and he went back with joy," says Macchitelli. "He started jumping up and down and howling and wagging his tail like crazy. Mr. Smith dropped his head down and started crying. Then everyone in the waiting room started crying. And so did I."

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039 or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

IN BRIEF

Voter registration deadline is Oct. 22.

Time is running out to register to vote in the Nov. 6 election. The deadline to register to vote in the upcoming consolidated district, school and municipal election is Monday, Oct. 22.

Voters should re-register if they have not voted in the last five years, have moved since the last voting, have changed their name, or want to change their party affiliation.

Voter registration forms can be obtained at a variety of locations, including county offices, the Department of Motor Vehicles, libraries, post offices and city hall.

Dumping facility to close for repairs

The Solid Waste Transfer Station at 1201 Second St. in Berkeley will close for two weeks beginning Nov. 5. The city will make improvements to the floor of the public dumping area during the

temporary closure. The facility is scheduled to reopen Nov. 19.

During this period, residential and commercial users may take their trash and plant debris to the West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill in Richmond or the Davis Street transfer station in San Leandro.

Collection of refuse, recycling, and plant debris in Berkeley will continue on the normal schedule. The recycling center at 1231 Second St. will remain open for business as usual. For more information, call 981-6350.

Family fun at contra dance

Come play and dance, with easy dances for all ages at the community and family contra dance on 7 p.m. on Saturday Nov. 3 Grace North Church at Cedar and Walnut in Berkeley. Music will be by Robin Flower and Libby McLaren. Admission is \$10 adults, \$5 kids, free under 5. Details: 510-482-9479.

Crowden presents Benjamin Simon

Well known Bay Area violinist Benjamin Simon performs an unusual recital with pianist Arkadi Serper on the Sundays at Four chamber music series at The Crowden School, 1475 Rose St. (at Sacramento) at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 4.

Simon will perform works of two Bachs — Johann Sebastian

and P.D.Q.; as well Dmitri Shostakovich's last work, Viola Sonata (1975). Joining him will be pianist Arkadi Serper and Crowden students in the performance of PDQ Bach's Sonata for Viola Four Hands and Harpsichord.

The program will be introduced with a pre-concert talk at 3:15 p.m. The concert begins at 4 p.m. Admission is \$10, free for violinists and those under 18.

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Berkeley Women's Chorus is all about making a joyful noise

Music, as everyone knows, is magic. Listening to it carries one out of the immediate world and into whatever kind of world you dream of — or listen to. And of all music, singing is the most rewarding and fulfilling, because it is you, yourself. You are making the music that you so love. And this is true whether you have the most magnificent voice in the world, or a voice that only you — and your mother — could love.

So it is natural that there are several groups of people who get together just for that reason, to sing. Some of them do oratorios and even opera. Some do old-time type music, even madrigals. And some just sing music that they enjoy. So it is with the Berkeley Women's Chorus. In its 45-year history the group has sung very challenging music, simple music, popular music, spirituals (thanks to director Callie

CLARA-RAE GENSER Community Folk

Greer) and seasonal music.

But always it has been music that the members enjoy singing together.

Since they sing often for residents of senior living homes or nursing homes, many of the things they sing are old favorites, and they are delighted when one or two people in their audience joins in with a song that has special memories for them.

The Berkeley Women's Chorus has women from all over the East Bay, from Richmond to Berkeley to Oakland.

Over the years, their numbers have fluctuated. Sometimes a wonderful 18 to 20 women fill the room with their joyful sounds. Sometimes the numbers go down and one part or another becomes weaker.

As is the problem now, when the soprano section is suddenly in need of at least one more strong voice.

And yes, the second sopranos could use another couple of singers. But something like that has never made them falter, and when they really sing out you aren't aware of any lack in any of the voices. That is because it is a happy group of women doing what they love best—singing.

The Berkeley Women's Chorus is an outgrowth of the Mothersingers of the 1950s. That was a period when the state PTA encouraged the groups at each school to form their own chorus. Each chorus sang whatever they liked, but did rehearse a certain number of songs statewide.

Then at PTA conventions the Mothersingers would gather — about 1,500 strong — and entertain the gathering with the chorus of choruses. It

was lovely.

Of course, by the '50s, everyone had to wear formals, so it was a riot of color and design, that large chorus, and a truly joyous sound.

As the era died, so did the Mothersingers. But the women had had a taste of the joy of singing together, and they loved it. So in most communities one or two women with musical backgrounds would call together the women they had sung with in the Mothersingers, and start local choruses. I belonged to a wonderful one in Richmond and then, when we had moved to El Cerrito, another great group brought together by Dorthelle Fites was started.

Several years of work as a legislative aide to Assemblyman John Knox interrupted my choruses, but I always knew that there was one there and ready for me when I retired, and that is when I joined the

Berkeley Womens Chorus. Many of the women from Dorthelle Fites' group were singing there, and I felt right at home. And have been ever since — and that is a very long time.

My children grew up with mother's choruses, and enjoyed going to hear them when we gave concerts.

That is something we don't do any more. We gave one concert every year, plus, sometimes, Christmas concerts. Our families came to all of them, husbands, children and any other relatives and friends who could be corralled. It was great fun, and meant a great deal to all of us.

Now much of that extra to-do is gone, but the wonderful joy of singing with a group remains. And singing for people such as patients in nursing homes, in assisted care homes, in senior residences is so very rewarding.

The Berkeley Women's Chorus is, as noted, directed by Callie Greer, and accompanied by Jo Ann Minner. Although there are some 16 to 18 people on the roll, all too often some are traveling, and/or some are ill. But we continue to sing together, and are rehearsing songs we will sing for some of our favorite audiences probably next month.

We meet in the First Baptist Church in Albany, on Solano St., Pomona, at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. Anyone is invited to join us at that time. We do not need a one requirement. You must love to sing. For more information you are invited to call Mary Lee Trampleson at 510-843-2484.

As usual, I invite your input on interesting people, events, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4565. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com.

ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein
CORRESPONDENT

Albany PTA Council

THANKS to Albany SchoolCARE (an independent fundraising organization) for their ongoing efforts to sell SCRIP benefiting Albany PTAs.

Albany High School

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact October 24, Financial Aid Night, 7:30 PM, AHS Little Theater.

Nov. 1, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 PM, AHS Asst. Prin. Conf. Room.

SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednaming@aol.com

Albany Middle School

Oct. 25, eighth grade family potluck, 6-8 p.m., AMS Courtyard, call Gillia Hill at 527-5310

Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda

Okamoto at ltopm@earthlink.net
SCRIP Orders: Call Edna Shipley at 527-0745 or e-mail Edna at ednaming@aol.com.

REMINDER: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Cornell Elementary

SCRIP Orders: Call Mark Priven 528-2082 or e-mail Mark at privest@pacbell.net

Marin Elementary

Interested parents may receive important announcements by e-mail. Contact Tree Stuber at marinertree@aol.com

Oct. 18, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Marin Staff Room

SCRIP Orders: Call Helene Class at 527-0745 or e-mail Helene at h.class@att.net

Paper SCRIP for sale in the office M,W and F at 8:30 and M and F at 9:30

REMINDER: Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Ocean View

Oct. 26, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Ocean

View Library
SCRIP Orders: Call Kim Denton at 524-3355

RECYCLE used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the library.

AUSD Board

Oct. 23, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

Nov. 12, Veterans Day, NO SCHOOL

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Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 525-0363 or e-mail: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

Bayside PTA Council

First membership dues payments should be sent now to Michele Jawad, Bayside Membership Chair, 7717 Eureka Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Annual Reports, current approved budgets, tax and workman's comp forms (two copies each) should be forwarded to Melita Agabaki, Bayside Treasurer, 7828 Potrero Ave., El Cerrito, 94530. Insurance payments TBA. Nov. 5, Council Meeting - Agenda items include guest, Dr. Gloria Johnston, vote on council bylaws revisions, and school-alike round table discussions.

Adams Middle School

Oct. 22, Picture Day for students. Students must bring a completed order form from Lifetouch with payment included.

Oct. 22, GATE parent meeting, 6 p.m.; ELAC (English Language Learners Advisory Committee) parent meeting, 7 p.m.

PTA e-mail: Receive weekly bulletins — send your e-mail address to Connie Chan Kucera at cchan2429@aol.com to join this group.

PTA membership is \$7 — Send membership payment to Adams PTA, 5000 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA 94805.

Adams PTA presently has following fund-raisers: Albertson Community Cards, Target Guest Cards, Safeway club card, www.schoolpop.com

Castro Elementary

Fund-raisers: Castro is enrolled in eScrip (ID# 137627554). Albertson's, Target, and SchoolPop fund-raising programs. Details: Peggy Wilcox, 236-0761.

El Cerrito High

Oct. 25, Dance Production, "Second Time Around," 8 p.m., ECHS Little Theater. Admission at the door.

Oct. 30, Halloween Concert, 7:30pm, Cafeteria. Both Concert and Symphonic Bands will be performing. Admission: \$5.00/adults, \$2.50/children OR bring baked goods for our bake

sale and get in free!

New scrip sales: El Cerrito High School PTSA is re-enrolled in the eScrip program. Our group ID is 5221087.

Keep informed: Join the ECHS mail forum. To sign up, e-mail Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@home.com

Harding Elementary

Oct. 20, Harding Fall Carnival with a Halloween twist, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Game booths, entertainment, face painting, arts and crafts, BBQ, pumpkin patch and Haunted House. Bring your family. Open to the whole community.

Madera Elementary

Oct. 22-26, Red Ribbon Week at Madera: a PTA-sponsored week promoting drug awareness and safety for children.

Oct. 19, 3 to 5 p.m.: Annual Madera Olympics — Madera students participate in a series of individual events to raise funds toward educational enhancement. The community is welcome to join families in cheering on the students and supporting the school. Phone 526-5782 for further information.

Portola Middle School

Oct. 24, 7 to 9 p.m. in the Portola library — For parents and students with a professional facilitator.

Oct. 20, Parent Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Teen Center — Monday through Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Fee: \$6 drop-in or \$50 monthly. Great activities, trips and special events. Details: 215-4370.

E-mail forum — school information and meeting notices direct to your e-mail box. Send your e-mail address and request to be on the mail list to Kathy Travlos travlos@dnal.com.

Items? Call Linda Takimoto at 510-237-6183 or e-mail: takimoto@yahoo.com

Briefs

FROM PAGE A3

sored by the El Cerrito Democratic Club to hear candidates seeking the Democratic nomination for the State Assembly from the 14th Assembly District in the March 2002 primary. The seat is being vacated by incumbent Dion Aroner due to term limits.

The meeting with the candidates follows the 7:30 p.m. general business meeting of the club, at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. Details: Joe Franzaszek, 510-524-4659.

Art association sets acrylic workshop

EL CERRITO — The El Cerrito Art Association continues its monthly meeting series on Monday, Nov. 12, with a workshop on acrylics painted by Michele Theberge, education advisor for Liquitex. The workshop is set for 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Garden Room at the Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane.

There is a requested donation of \$2 for non-members of the association.

Theberge, a local artist, will talk about acrylic paint, its characteristics, color mixing, and safe studio practices, as well as the many uses of acrylic paints. Guests are invited to ask questions and experiment with the paints.

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Parcel tax on recreation areas will be put to vote

■ A \$12-a-year tax will need two-thirds approval on the March 5 ballot

By Mike Taugher
STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — East Bay voters will be asked in March if they are willing to pay about \$12 a year to open recreational properties, a regional panel decided Tuesday.

If approved, the parcel tax would apply to houses and apartments in Contra Costa and Alameda counties.

The East Bay Regional Park

District says it needs the money largely to make the most of new real estate it has acquired in the past 13 years.

A 1988 bond measure allowed the East Bay parks to buy 26,000 acres. But that money can be used only for acquisitions, and funding available to open, patrol and improve parkland has remained relatively flat.

"This is a response to our success," said board member Ted Radke.

The parcel tax question on the March 5 ballot will require two-thirds approval.

If it passes, homeowners would pay \$12 a year. The owners of apartment buildings and other multifamily units would pay \$8.28 per unit each year.

Park district officials estimate the measure would generate \$8.1 million a year during the life of the 12-year tax. That money would be used for gates, bathrooms, trails, habitat restoration projects and rangers to patrol and maintain parks.

In deciding to go forward with the initiative, the board Tuesday abandoned a plan to exclude some of far East Contra Costa County. That area includes Brentwood, Discovery Bay and part of

Oakley. Annexed to the district in the early 1980s, it does not contribute property taxes to the district.

Instead, property owners there pay an annual assessment of \$19.70.

But board members decided that opposition to the measure could arise if other voters perceive that East Contra Costa was getting special treatment.

"(Including East Contra Costa) eliminates an argument against," said board chairman John Sutter.

East Contra Costa homeowners now pay about \$36 a year to the district for the 1988 bond measure and the assessment.

In the rest of the park district that figure varies depending on the assessed value of a home owners' property. A house assessed at \$250,000 would pay about \$95 a year to the district in taxes and assessments.



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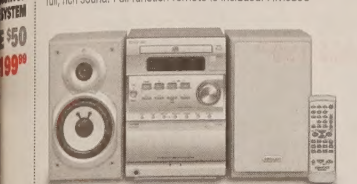


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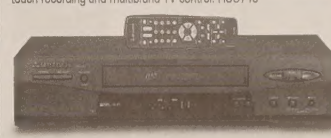
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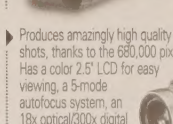
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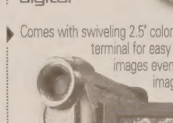
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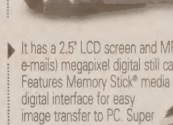
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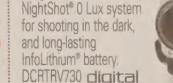
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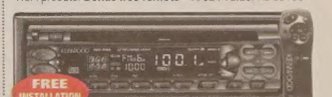
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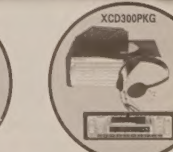
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MERCEDES
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IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR—If you are a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court with

four months from the date of first issuance of letter as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of the estate assets or of any other

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tion or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
RICHARD G. COLE
6700 BERRYHILL COURT

FORESTVILLE, CA 95436
10/05/01, 10/12/01
10/19/01
CNS- 301308#
Legal the Journal #0691
Publish October 5, 12, 19
2001.

Teresa Leung-Ryan
 298 Grizzly Peak Blvd.
 Kensington, CA. 94708
 510-522-2100
 SUPERIOR COURT
 OF CALIFORNIA
 COUNTY OF
 CONTRA COSTA

725 Court Street
P.O. Box 911
Martinez, CA 94553
PETITION OF: TERESA
LEUNG-RYAN FOR
CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. C01 03808
**ORDER TO SHOW
CAUSE FOR CHANGE**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
1. Petitioner: Teresa Leung Ryan, has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

2. THE COURT ORDERS:
(a) All people interested
in this matter shall appear
before this court at the

hearing indicated below
show cause, if any, why
petition for change of name
should not be granted.

NOTICE OF HEARING
a. Date: November 1
2001 time 3:24pm. Dep

(b) A copy of this order
Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date s

for hearing on the petition
in the following newspaper
of general circulation
printed in this County: The
El Cerrito Journal.
Dated: September 1
2001
JUDITH A. SANDER

JUDGE PRO TEM OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT
Legal The Journal #0690
Publish September 28, O
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THE BERKELEY VOICE

ALBANY & EL VERDE THE JOURNAL

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The Montclarion

Alameda Journal

SPORTS

J • V

• Friday, October 19, 2001 •

Cross-country Cougar boys staying close [A13]

Football Scots 'Lopes' past Albany High [A13]

CPS comes back to beat Albany

After 15-1 win, Cougars lose three straight

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

OAKLAND — In a battle of East Bay prep volleyball titans Friday night at College Prep, the CPS Cougars outlasted the Albany Cougars, 3-1.

In a marvelous match that featured thrilling points and great emotion, the CPS team, once again led by their brilliant sophomore Laura Mahon, came back from a 15-1 whipping in the first game to take three straight games from Albany en route to their 13th victory without a loss.

College Prep won 1-15, 15-10, 15-12, 15-13.

Albany, a perennial powerhouse and reigning North Coast Section Division IV champion, came into this match undefeated in Bay Shore Athletic League play, having lost four matches in tournaments to quality teams outside of the area.

Cougars' first-year coach John Seagall knew his players were in for a challenge against longtime friend coach Jill Schneider and her senior-dominated squad.

"These guys (CPS) were great," he said, "and in the end it was their experience down the stretch that beat us."

Coming out of the chute on fire, Albany served, passed, dug and slammed its way to a 15-1 win in a first game that caught CPS napping.

Led by junior Dimphy Sasse (10 kills, five blocks) and team captain Rachel Lomen (eight kills, five aces), Albany did everything right the first game.

Albany (12-5 overall, 6-0 in the BSAL) is an outstanding defensive team that depends on good passing to set up their talented frontline of Sasse, sophomore Emma Spearman (12 kills, three aces) and senior leader

Prep girls' volleyball

CP	3
Albany	1



ALBANY'S KIRSTEN BENDER ripped a spike into the arms of College Prep blockers Briana Williford (6) and Alexandra Frasca, playing in Oakland on Oct. 12. CPS turned back Albany 3-1.

Lomen.

After the first game "everything changed" according to Schneider. Senior setter Sadie Wilhelm (36 assists) ran the CPS team like an NBA point guard, doing whatever it took to put her taller teammates in position to score, which they started to do in bunches in the second game.

Although CPS has 14 players on its roster and Albany only nine, Seagall rotated all of his players while Schneider went with just eight. Schneider's first sub off the bench, however, made a key contribution.

Senior Alexandra Frasca, often overlooked on a team with several stars, came in and gave her team a lift with two quick scores en route to an outstanding (11 kills) overall game.

As the second game unfolded it was obvious the match would

be a dogfight. With the score 7-4 Mahon, who had been quiet the first game and was nursing a cold, began to assert herself.

After a kill following a set by Wilhelm, Mahon blocked Lomen, then scored again to give CPS what seemed a commanding 13-7 lead.

But behind Sasse and her slingshot left-handed spikes, Albany closed the gap to 13-10. After another putaway by Frasca gave CPS a 14-10 lead, and College Prep was then able to close out the game.

With CPS up 4-3 in the third game, the scorekeeper informed Seagall that his players were serving out-of-turn, and Schneider was quick to point out the infraction. Asking for slack from the referees, Seagall got none and CPS regained serve.

The distraction seemed to rat-

tle Albany, as CPS, with Mahon once again ripping winners and Williford all over the court, gradually built an 11-3 lead.

But Albany would not fold. "Our team showed a lot of heart out there today against a terrific team," Seagall said.

A huge block on Mahon by her friend and Golden Gate Bear club teammate Sasse shifted the momentum Albany's way, and with Lomen serving well, they closed the gap to 12-6.

The teams traded points for several minutes as the tension increased in the College Prep gym, the small but raucous crowd getting into the match.

Clinging to a narrow and shrinking 13-10 lead, CPS turned to Mahon.

In succession, Mahon delivered a kill from the left front-court, a remarkable dig on what

seemed to be a sure point by Sasse, and another kill, this time from midcourt.

After what seemed an endless series of sideouts, CPS won the third game 15-12 on an ace by — who else? — Mahon.

"Laura Mahon was the difference," Seagall said after the match.

The fourth game was tough, with all 12 players on the court exhausted after the lengthy second and third games. But somehow both teams reached down and got their collective second wind and gave the crowd a thrilling finish.

Spearman, a force from the net all evening, brought Albany to within one at 5-4 with a textbook jump-serve for an ace.

But Mahon made the big shot

See COUGARS, Page A13

Purdue courts Keys

By Phil Jensen

Berkeley High School basketball star Sabrina Keys made an oral commitment to transfer to a full-ride athletic scholarship.

The Boilemakers' season and reach the championship game, but they lost to Notre Dame. Boilemakers won the title in 1999.

"It was mainly the Keys about the recruitment. I talked to her by phone, and they were very forthright."

The 6-foot-1 center made a decision before visiting Lafayette, Ind., campus. She also considered Oregon and Ohio State before deciding on the Boilemakers.

"I think it's great for a key coach Gene."

"She's a very bright, good basketball player who fits in at Purdue."

Keys, the tallest player on the team, averaged 12 rebounds per game. She said she has been coaching staff that she can play power forward for Boilemakers.

In the California Interscholastic Federation Division I championship game, Keys scored 13 points, including three players fouled in a 48-45 loss to North Bay City. In the Tournament of Champions in Evansville, Ind., Keys averaged 10.1 points per game in Alameda County. Keys averaged 10.1 points per game in Alameda County.

Nakamura said the Ohio State and Michigan State to Purdue, had been his No. 1 power prospect.

Up, down, in with a win

Jackets blank Hornets in 2nd half to post 48-14 ACCAL victory

By Bill Kruissink
STAFF WRITER

First Alameda came out flat and Berkeley's offense rumbled to a pair of quick touchdowns for 12-0.

Then the Hornets came alive by scoring on its next two possessions and by chilling the Yellow Jacket offense (with the help of a timely Berkeley penalty).

With a nod to Brian Thomas' accurate foot, Alameda (2-3, 0-2) surged into a 14-12 lead. All this took place in the first quarter-and-a-half of a game in Berkeley on Friday night.

The defending league champs, the Yellow Jackets must have wondered what hit them.

"It was simple mind mistakes," explained Berkeley running back Germey Baird, who wound up with 178 yards on the ground, a touchdown and two points after. "Lots of penalties. They killed us on penalties. And mistakes on defense — like missed coverage."

But whatever was happening in the first half, it was behind everyone by the second. No more blown coverage by Berkeley (2-3, 2-0) and few runs-to-daylight dashes for Alameda. And while



GOING AIRBORNE, Berkeley receiver Lee Franklin pulls down a pass from Raymond Pinkston. Playing in Berkeley on Oct. 12, the Yellow Jackets shut out the Hornets in the second half en route to a 48-14 victory.

Berkeley continued to dig itself into holes with penalties in the second half (the club was hit with 167 yards in penalties during the contest), it also found a way to dig itself out — usually with the double-digit gain.

In the end, it was Berkeley winning big time, 48-14.

Trailing the Yellow Jackets 12-0 following touchdown passes of 38 yards to Lee Franklin and 46 yards to Sean Young, both delivered from quarterback Raymond

Pinkston, the Hornets began to turn things around when quarterback Tom Gay found running back Jay Castro all alone in the left flat late in the first quarter. Castro snared Gay's pass and took it 17 yards and into the end zone for six. Thomas kicked the score to 12-7.

"I got a rub to the outside — a little flat — stayed in bounds and got a touchdown," Castro said.

When Berkeley ended its next drive at the Alameda 29, the Hornets went back to work. Behind a string of first-down plays, sophomore Tavis Ve'e caught a little pass in the backfield and carried it the last three yards for 14-12.

But ominously for Alameda, Berkeley overcame a holding call on its next possession with a 37-yard run by Aaron Boatwright. A couple of runs later, Baird was in for a touchdown, to which he added two points on the PAT for 20-14.

Though Alameda stifled Berkeley's final drive of the half, stopping the Jackets on the Hornet 10, the Jackets had cracked Alameda's momentum.

In the second half, the momentum was all one way. Alameda had just two drives of more than three plays, while Berkeley scored on three of its final four possessions.

But then, to hear Berkeley tell it, the season was on the line.

"We needed this win — we need to win every game," Baird said. "We need to go undefeated — that's what coach said. The playoffs — that's our goal."

See JACKETS, Page A13

Coogler catches on at St. Mary's

By Orlando Molina
STAFF WRITER

BERKELEY — By placing nine players in the box, the John Swett High School football team was determined to stop the running of St. Mary's Trestin George.

But in doing so, they left Ryan Coogler wide open for two key scores in a 38-3 trouncing of the Indians in the Bay Shore Athletic League opener Saturday.

Coogler, a wide receiver, caught just two passes from quarterback Steve Murphy. But he made the most of his chances, turning them into touchdowns of 34 and 27 yards.

The Panthers (2-4)...

Prep football

St. Mary's	38
J. Swett	3

fourth-and-8 at the line. Murphy rolled left and Coogler all alone for a gain. Coogler shook the

See PANTHERS, Page A13

Shootout! Gauchos rally, then fall

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

RICHMOND — In an incredible offensive game, De Anza High School received some big plays in the final quarter and hung on for a 38-36 victory over El Cerrito on Friday night.

"Our offense kept us alive," said De Anza coach George Pye, whose team improved to 1-1 in Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League play and 3-2 overall.

Trailing 30-26 entering the final period, the Dons received a twirling 34-yard touchdown run by Tyke Moore two plays into the

quarter for a 32-30 lead.

After the Dons caught it, El Cerrito (1-5, 1-4)...

Prep football

De Anza	38
El Cerrito	36

yard touchdown run by Tyke Moore two plays into the

on a throw from the line of port for a 38-36 victory.

See GAUCHOS, Page A13



ALBANY'S JUSTIN SAMUDIO competed against runners from St. Joseph and St. Joseph. A BSAL meet at Joaquin Miller on Oct. 11. Samudio was fifth.

Cougars staying close

Samudio 5th in Joaquin Miller varsity race

By Peter Mentor

ALBANY — Of the four Bay Area Athletic League cross country meets this season, the best trail by far is at Joaquin Miller.

In both varsity races St. Joe runners gave the course and Piedmont a good run, but the fast pace set by the Piedmont runners, and the hills, took their toll on the Pilots and Cougars.

"North Coast was our big race this year," Crosby said. "Last year we focused on state, but this year it's North Coast."

Piedmont is ranked fourth in the division behind Bishop O'Dowd, Moreau Catholic and Cardinal Newman.

Piedmont senior Mike Sullivan (19:49) placed fourth overall in the league meet Oct. 11. Albany senior Justin Samudio (20:44) came in fifth.

The race between the St. Joseph and Albany boys heated up as Albany sophomores Ryan Gamba and Sean Carey and freshman Jeffrey Hinshaw placed ninth, 10th and 11th, respectively.

But St. Joseph sophomore Nick Cheshire, junior Matt Ramirez and junior Andrew Wright took the next three places to edge the Cougars. Albany sophomore Jerry Cheung was Albany's fifth scoring runner in 16th overall.

In the junior varsity race it was all Piedmont once again. Erica Simpson (16:36) and Danielle Geong (16:38) placed 1-2 in the girls' race as Piedmont had the only complete team, while Ian Renner (14:47) and Gabe Arcey (14:51) paced the Piedmont boys to a 25-30 win over Albany.

yard field goal. But that was all the scoring the Panthers' defense would allow.

In the third quarter, the running game took over. Murphy put the contest away with a stunning 42-yard keeper in which he juked his way out of six tackles and sprinted down the right sideline to make it a 22-3.

George, who rushed for 169 yards on 17 carries, added a 51-yard scoring run to break the game open. Julian Taylor raced 39 yards for a touchdown to seal the Panthers' first league win.

"We ran the ball way better in the second half," said a satisfied St. Mary's coach Jay Lawson. "I told the guys we're 0-0 as of now and we're looking to go 5-0 in league."

After putting the ball at the line, Murphy rolled right and threw a 14-0 lead. The Panthers rolled right and threw a 14-0 lead. The Panthers rolled right and threw a 14-0 lead.

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Scots 'Lope' past Albany High Jackets

Lueders' TD pass to Ball is Albany's lone score

By Scott Strain

PIEDMONT — The Albany Cougars had no answer for Piedmont running back Mark Loper and dropped a 35-7 decision to the Highlanders Friday night at Witter Field.

The seniors Highlanders running back rushed for 173 yards and scored three touchdowns to lead the Scots (3-2).

overall, 1-0 in the Bay Shore Athletic League) to victory in the league openers for both teams.

The Cougars dropped their overall record to 2-4 and are 0-1 in the BSAL.

Albany's first drive was short-circuited when Piedmont line-backer Alex Danoff intercepted a Harold Lueders pass at the Cougars' 46-yard line. Piedmont drove 64 yards in nine plays with Loper scoring on a 7-yard run with 8:12 left in the first quarter.

The big play in the drive occurred when Highlanders quarterback Drew Olson completed a 32-yard pass to Mac Conn to the Albany 8.

The Cougars were moving the ball in the first quarter (Lueders was 4-for-5 for 62 yards) but was unable to come up with the plays to sustain drives.

One play into the second quarter, disaster struck. Loper took a pitch from Olson, bobbled it momentarily, cut inside and the broke out side and went 79 yards down the right sideline for a touchdown to give Piedmont a 14-0 lead with 11:29 left in the period.

Two series later, the Cougars tried a fake punt on fourth down,



ALBANY'S JOHN KOEHM broke a tackle during the Cougar's 35-7 loss at Piedmont Oct. 12

but Mike Estis was stopped for a 3-yard loss at his own 47 with just over a minute left.

Piedmont then made the Cougars pay. Olson completed passes of 24 yards to Mark Jones and ran 13 yards to the Albany 13 before throwing a 13-yard scoring pass to Conn that made it 21-0 at the half.

Albany stopped Piedmont on its first drive of the second half and drove 70 yards in nine plays to score its only touchdown.

Lueders threw passes of 20 yards to Zeine Gamal and 17 to Ian Jones before throwing 21 yards to Matt Ball for the score with a little over three minutes left in the quarter. Ball had to outwrestle two defenders for the ball before falling into the end zone.

Garen Hecht kicked the PAT and it was 21-7.

But that was as far as it went for Albany's efforts. Piedmont took the kickoff and drove 69 yards in seven plays, with Jones running the final 27 yards for a touchdown that made it 28-7 with 1:24 left in the third quarter.

Piedmont added one more score when Loper ran 24 yards for his third touchdown with 11:39 left in the game.

Lueders completed 15 of 29 passes for 199 yards and a touchdown. He threw two interceptions. Ball caught six passes for 84 yards and a touchdown.

The Cougars, though, could only gain 61 yards rushing and, on the other hand, were punished by Piedmont which gained 267 yards on the ground.

SCOREBOARD

Football

W	L	T	PF	PA	Ovrl	
Berkeley	2	0	0	74	43	2-3-0
Pinole V	2	0	0	104	20	5-1-0
Encinal	2	1	0	50	74	2-3-0
De Anza	1	1	0	59	92	3-2-0
El Cerrito	1	2	0	106	72	1-5-0
Alameda	0	2	0	21	69	2-3-0
Richmond	0	2	0	31	64	1-4-0

Friday results

Pinole Valley 40, Encinal 0
De Anza 35, El Cerrito 36
Berkeley 42, Alameda 14

El Cerrito	2	1	0	50	74	2-3-0
De Anza	1	1	0	58	92	3-2-0
El Cerrito	1	2	0	106	72	1-5-0
Alameda	0	2	0	21	69	2-3-0
Richmond	0	2	0	31	64	1-4-0

Saturday results

St. Mary's 30, Kennedy 33
St. Patrick 40, Kennedy 33
Piedmont 35, Albany 7

Friday results

St. Patrick 40, Kennedy 33
Piedmont 35, Albany 7

Albany	0	1	0	1	33	0-0-0
JSwett	0	1	0	3	38	1-5-0
Kennedy	0	1	0	33	40	3-2-0

Saturday results
St. Mary's 38, John Swett 3

Friday results

Tuesday's results

Berkeley d. De Anza 15-13, 15-1, 15-6
Encinal d. El Cerrito 15-9, 14-16, 15-6, 15-8
Richmond at Alameda
Hercules d. Pinole Valley 15-10, 15-13, 8-15, 6-15, 10-10

Berkeley d. De Anza

Score: 15-13, 15-1, 15-6
Highlights: B — Vanessa Williams 4 kills, 8 digs, 4 service aces; Danielle LaPue 2 kills, 3 digs, 18 assists; Denise Gullard-Young 11 kills, 4 blocks, 2 aces
Records: Berkeley 16-4, 7-0 ACCL

Encinal d. El Cerrito

Score: 15-9, 14-18, 15-6, 15-8
Highlights: EC — Lydia Chilton 5 kills, 2 blocks; Stephanie Rodriguez 6 kills; Tina Jung 13 service points
Records: El Cerrito 5-7, 4-3 ACCL; Encinal 6-1 AC-CA

Hercules d. Pinole Valley

Score: 15-10, 15-13, 6-15, 6-15, 15-10
Highlights: H — Kelly Clifton 3 kills, Akash Reynolds 2 blocks, 2 digs; Justine Bautista 3 kills, 2 aces; PV — Jessica Karrow 3 kills
Records: Hercules 1-6 ACCL; Pinole Valley 0-7 AC-CA

2 blocks, 2 digs, Justine Bautista 3 kills, 2 saves PV — Jessica Klenow 5 kills

Records: Hercules 1-6 ACCAL Pinole Valley 0-7 AC CA.

BSAL

Monday's results

Albany d. St. Joseph 15-4, 15-8, 15-11
St. Mary's d. John Swett 15-6, 11-15, 16-14, 15-5

Holy Names d. Kennedy

Score: 15-2, 15-1, 15-1
Highlights: HN — Natalie Cuevas 9 kills, 14 assists; Johane Padilla 2 kills, 10 aces; Jennifer Estrada 5 kills, 3 aces; Erin Bogan 6 kills, 2 blocks
Records: Holy Names 4-4, 3-4 BSAL

Albany d. St. Joseph

Score: 15-2, 15-1, 15-1
Highlights: SJ — Angelica Jones 9 kills, 3 digs, 4 blocks; Sabrina Sudarsana 13 kills, 8 digs, 2 blocks; Mala Mau 23 assists, 2 aces, 3 digs; Tammy Webster 2 kills, 5 digs; A — Kristin Bender 12 kills, 2 blocks; Demphy Sase 8 kills; Rachel Lommen 9 kills; Emma Spearman 10 kills, 2 aces, 2 blocks; Christina Smith 3 aces
Records: St. Joseph 13-4, 5-2 BSAL; Albany 12-5, 7-1

Piedmont d. St. Patrick

Score: 15-3, 15-7, 15-3
Highlights: P — Robin Mangini 5 kills, 2 aces; Molly Wooster 24 assists, 7 kills, 2 blocks
Records: Piedmont 8-2, 7-1 BSAL

St. Mary's d. John Swett

Score: 15-6, 11-15, 16-14, 15-5
Highlights: SM — Kelli Yaris 6 aces, 3 digs; Martha Ryan 4 kills, 1 ace; Krysia Grycz 1 kill, 5 blocks; Kamalya Warren 4 kills, 1 block; Camille Beaver 2 kills, 1 block, 3 aces
Records: St. Mary 2-6, 2-6 BSAL

St. Elizabeth d. Salesian

Score: 15-3, 15-7, 15-3
Highlights: SE — Veronica Villanueva 14 assists, 3 kills, 11 digs; Gabriela Gomez 6 kills, 11 assists, 9 digs
Records: Salesian 7-10, 3-5 BSAL; St. Elizabeth 8-6

Scores 15-2, 15-3, 15-13

Highlights: SE — Veronica Villanueva 14 assists, 3 kills, 11 digs; Gabriela Gomez 6 kills, 11 assists, 9 digs
Records: Salesian 7-10, 3-5 BSAL; St. Elizabeth 8-6

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1	De La Salle (Concord, Calif.)	5-0	(1)
2	West Monroe (West Monroe, La.)	7-0	(2)
3	Jenks (Jenks, Okla.)	6-0	(3)
4	Poly (Long Beach, Calif.)	4-1	(4)
5	Glades Central (Belle Glade, Fla.)	7-0	(5)
6	St. Thomas Aquinas (Fort Lauderdale, Fla.)	7-0	(6)

Saturday results

St. Mary's 30, Kennedy 33
St. Patrick 40, Kennedy 33
Piedmont 35, Albany 7

Friday results

St. Patrick 40, Kennedy 33
Piedmont 35, Albany 7

19 Southeast (Lincoln, Neb.) 6-0 (23)
20 Elizabeth (Elizabeth, N.J.) 6-0 (19)
21 Evangel Christian (Shreveport, La.) 6-1 (21)
22 Loyola (Los Angeles, Calif.) 5-0 (20)
23 Riverdale (Murfreesboro, Tenn.) 8-0 (24)
24 Valdosta (Valdosta, Ga.) 6-0 (32)

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Records: Hercules 1-6 ACCL; Pinole Valley 0-7 AC-CA

BSAL

W	L	GB	
Albany	8	0	—
Piedmont	7	1	1
St. Patrick	5	2	2 1/2
St. Joseph	5	2	2 1/2
St. Elizabeth	5	3	3
Salesian	3	5	5
Holy Names	3	5	5
St. Mary's	2	6	6
John Swett	0	6	7
Kennedy	0	7	7 1/2

Monday's results

Albany d. St. Joseph 15-4, 15-8, 15-11
St. Mary's d. John Swett 15-6, 11-15, 16-14, 15-5

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Score: 15-2, 15-1, 15-1
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St. Mary's d. John Swett

Score: 15-6, 11-15, 16-14, 15-5
Highlights: SM — Kelli Yaris 6 aces, 3 digs; Martha Ryan 4 kills, 1 ace; Krysia Grycz 1 kill, 5 blocks; Kamalya Warren 4 kills, 1 block; Camille Beaver 2 kills, 1 block, 3 aces
Records: St. Mary 2-6, 2-6 BSAL

St. Elizabeth d. Salesian

Score: 15-3, 15-7, 15-3
Highlights: SE — Veronica Villanueva 14 assists, 3 kills, 11 digs; Gabriela Gomez 6 kills, 11 assists, 9 digs
Records: Salesian 7-10, 3-5 BSAL; St. Elizabeth 8-6

FROM PAGE A12

Postgame

STATS: Berkeley amassed more than 600 yards of offense and would have run away with the game had it not been for the penalties. The Yellow Jackets lost an interception return for six points and huge gainer by Baird to flags.

And not just any penalties. The Yellow Jackets had 12 penalties of 10 yards or more during the game.

But the Jackets' offense also tallied 200 yards in the air and 450 on the ground. They had 19 first downs.

Alameda's Ve'e rushed for 22 yards, Martin Puckett 21. In the air, quarterbacks Tom Gay and Mike Gillman combined for 165 yards on 11-for-16 passing. Drew Kocal, Mark Gillman and Brian Brooks collected seven passes between them. Kocal reeled in three passes for 88 yards.

UP NEXT: Berkeley plays host to Emery at 7 p.m.

Gauchos

FROM PAGE A12

2 minutes, 45 seconds remaining in the game.

The Dons were not able to tack on points on the conversion attempt, however, and had only a single two-point conversion in the game.

El Cerrito, which had rallied from a 20-0 deficit, was far from finished.

After a 37-yard kickoff return by John Norman to the De Anza 45, the running back duo of Philip Vincent and Jamont'e Cox took over. The two seniors carried the ball on the next nine plays, with Vincent scoring from the 1-yard-line with 21 seconds left to pull El Cerrito within two points at 38-36.

But on the two-point conversion try, a pass by Randy Gatewood was incomplete, causing a celebration from the Dons. An onside kick from Greg Murray bounced past De Anza's front line and out of bounds, and the Dons ran out the clock for the victory.

The teams combined for 762 yards of offense. Vincent scored four touchdowns and finished with 112 yards rushing. Cox led all rushers with 138 yards.

Moore paced De Anza with 120 yards on the ground and two touchdowns. He caught a 39-yard touchdown pass from Davenport in the third quarter.

Davenport was 5-for-10 for 111 yards and three touchdowns (two passing and one running). Gatewood was 6-for-10 for 101 yards.

The game will be televised tape-delayed on Channels 25 and 26. Channel 25 will show the game today at 6 p.m., Sunday at 11 a.m. and Monday at 1 p.m. Channel 26 will show the game Sunday at 1 p.m., Monday at 3 p.m. and Tuesday at 3 p.m.

Got sports news?

Get it to Sports Editor Bill Kruissink at:

748-1652 (voice)

bkrussink@cctimes.com

748-1680 (fax)

Voice/Journal 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501

Cougars

FROM PAGE A12

at just the right time, stopping Albany's run with an emphatic slam. Frasca followed up with her own kill and CPS had Albany on the ropes at 9-4.

But like the champions they are, the Albany netters would not go quietly. Behind Lomen, Sasse and Spearman, Albany closed the gap to 12-11.

With the games' outcome now very much in doubt, the tallest player on the floor, CPS veteran middle hitter Jackie Edwards, stepped up and single-handedly took over the game.

On consecutive plays, Edwards, a 6-foot-1 senior, blocked Sasse, scored on a kill, blocked Spearman, and registered another kill to make the score 14-13.

Tour relives heyday of trolley service

■ Walking tour gives a comprehensive history of the days when streetcars rattled through town

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

As a nimble-footed boy, John Aronovici played chicken with the North Berkeley trolleys and lived to tell about it.

Aronovici was one of a crowd of about 50 people on last Saturday's "Northbrae and the Trolleys" walking tour, sponsored by the Berkeley Historical Society.

The group, which included both young and not-so-young folks, toured some of the areas in North Berkeley where trolleys were part of the public transportation mix from about 1910 to 1958. It was an informal, informative — and at times steep — journey into the historic era of steel rails down the middle of neighborhood streets, overhead electric lines and passenger rail cars.

"There wasn't a lot of clearance," Aronovici, 68, said about dodging trolleys in the Northbrae Tunnel. "You'd hear it coming and then you'd get up against the wall," he said. "There were no lights and it was dark." Aronovici and other boys would then stand on the tracks and wait to jump aside at the last minute as the trolleys made their way through the tunnel. "I guess I was about 12 or so," he said. "You know how teen-age kids are."

"You'd walk up here and get the 7 streetcar," Aronovici said near the south end of the tunnel, pointing north towards the Marin Circle. "It went on Arlington" to Kensington.

Tour guide Phil Gale of the historical society handed out copies of a 1924 map that showed the old trolley lines of Northbrae. Trolleys were electric trains — powered by overhead lines — that ran on steel tracks. Gale said the lighter and smaller city streetcars could carry about 50 passengers. The larger, heavier suburban cars seated about 115. Most of the lines in the area were about five miles long, according to Gale.

The Southern Pacific Shattuck Avenue trolley came in from the south, went through the Northbrae Tunnel and then west on Solano Avenue. The Key System Northbrae came in from the southwest and ended at the tunnel. Down the middle of The Alameda ran the Thousand Oaks Line, and the Arlington Line split off at Monterey Avenue for the Marin Circle and Kensington.

The map also shows the Southern Pacific California Street Line connecting up with the Shattuck line at the intersection of Colusa and Solano avenues. On the eastern edge of the Northbrae area, the Spruce Street Line

came in from the south and ended at Los Angeles Avenue.

The Southern Pacific system was electrified, and service by its bright-red trains expanded into Northbrae in 1911, Gale said. Prior to that, the trains were steam powered and the S.P. Shattuck Line ended at Vine Street. Gale said the suburban trains of the Key System first expanded into Northbrae about 1910.

Gale has been fascinated by trains since he was a boy growing up in Oakland near the Sacramento Northern railroad line.

"Many kids like to see the train — a lot of times it disappears — in my case, and with many friends, it didn't," said the 58-year-old retired mechanical engineer. Gale is a stout and friendly man with an encyclopedic knowledge of the area's trolleys.

"In 1928 the Grove Street line was through-routed (connected) with Spruce. The Shattuck line was through-routed with Euclid and College was through-routed with both the Thousand Oaks and the Arlington lines," Gale said. "The history of the streetcar lines in the East Bay on the Key is very complicated. They were also shifting their routes and everything else."

As he described the history of one trolley line, it became clear just how complicated trolley lore can become:

"The D car line, which it was at that time, would have come out Thousand Oaks. The Thousand Oaks car went out The Alameda to Tacoma," Gale said. "It was the D car line from about 1922 to about 1928. Then it became part of the No. 4 until 1942 and then it became part of the No. 3 until about 1945 and then it became part of the No. 7 until the end."

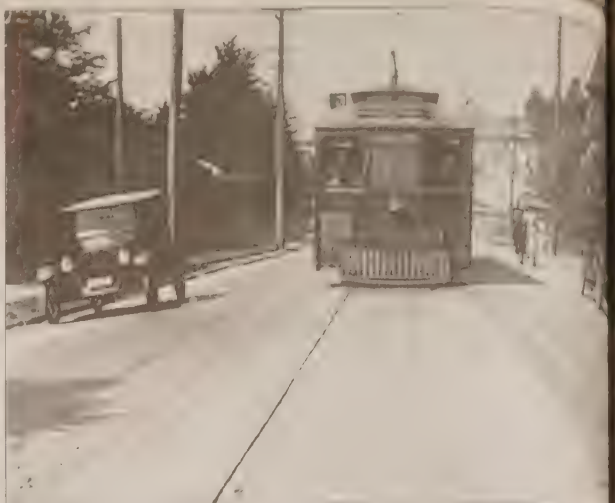
According to Gale, after the demise of the red trains in 1941, the Shattuck Avenue line ran through the Northbrae Tunnel as the Key System F line until 1958. "You see right over here," he said, pointing to Sutter Street south of the tunnel. "They had a center line of poles going right down the middle of the street." He said the large steel poles were called "drunk catchers" and were very unforgiving to anyone who veered out of the driving lane into one.

Gale said the forces behind the demise of the trolleys were also quite complicated. With the rise of the automobile and changing attitudes, the trolley era in Berkeley began to fade. Some people did not like the look of the overhead wires and tracks in the middle of the city streets. "There was also some pressure from the state to get rid of some of the lines," he said, pointing out that San Pablo and Ashby avenues are state highways. "The state did not like streetcars in the middle of their state highways,"

he said. "That's one of the reasons they abandoned the line north of Ashby Avenue on San Pablo."

Senta Pugh, 68, walked the trolley tour and said she would like to see trolleys return to Berkeley. "I wanted to understand where they ran," she said. "I'm madly interested in improving the transportation situation in town because I think we're going down a bad path. The university is pushing more parking. The city is pushing more parking and I do not think it's where we should be going."

"I grew up in Europe," Pugh said. "We used to put caps on the tracks of the trolley to hear them explode as the trolley car would come along. You always had trolleys. You were not dependent on your parents' driving. Kids would go to school in the trolley. It was fun."



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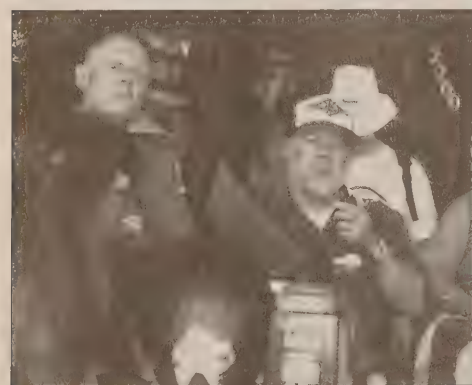
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PHIL GALE, who guided the Berkeley Historical Society tour, has a stockpile of local trolley history, thanks to a lifelong interest in trains.

Vote

FROM PAGE 1

year, prompting the council's decision to ask voters to make the charter change.

Proposing a shift to an appointed chief when the current chief wasn't interested in the job made the decision more neutral and less of a personal judgment, council members said.

But in September, Murdo

changed his mind, saying his retirement funds had taken a hit from the economic downswing and he plans to run for re-election when his term is up in November 2002.

So far, no one else has come forward to run.

This isn't the first time voters have been asked to make the change. Similar ballot measures have been rejected by voters four times in the past 50 years.

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Locations Also

Real Estate & Home

ing supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, October 19, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B5]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B13]

Picking a winning remodeling team

Remodeling involves many different players. The exact nature of the project will vary from project to project. However there are some constants.

There are always clients who want to have their homes. Of course, clients do not know exactly

what should be done. They might have a general idea but really need help to figure out the details.

Clients always wish they had a better idea of what their projects are going to cost. They have seen that projects typically cost more than they think they will.

At the same time clients usually have a budget in mind but do not always know if the cost and what will mesh.

Clients are also a little afraid of the risk in knowing so little about what is involved, making them very nervous.

Unless clients plan to do the work themselves, they need someone to make it happen. And so, they are usually looking for a remodeling contractor.

See WINANS Page B2

Spanish Colonial magnificence

Developer Leonard Perillo built this magnificent Spanish Colonial Revival villa as his personal residence.

Distinguished architect Peter David Gilbert turned a Firestorm footprint into a 5,000-square-foot masterpiece with the highest standard of quality and craftsmanship.

Gilbert perfectly positioned the home on the bend of Margarido Drive, a very desirable street in Oakland's prestigious Claremont Pines.

This spacious five-bedroom, four-and-one-half bath home boasts Golden Gate views, a gorgeous master suite with a fireplace and sitting room and a gourmet kitchen.

The home's exquisitely landscaped terraced gardens come complete with fountains. To learn more about this home offered at \$2,750,000 call Dee Knowland at 510-339-6460, ext. 318.



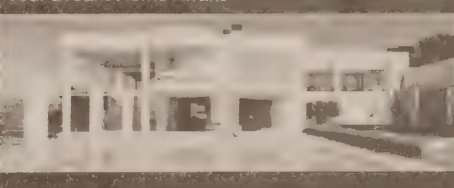
5926 MARGARIDO DRIVE OAKLAND
 OFFERED AT \$2,750,000

LUXURY ABOUNDS IN THIS SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL VILLA, above. The home includes glazed Douglas fir doors throughout, beamed ceilings, custom iron railings, slab limestone vanity and kitchen countertops and gourmet stainless steel kitchen appliances — including a Sub-zero refrigerator, and a decor gas cook top and oven. The home's lovely terraced gardens with their fountains, left, provide a refuge from the world around you. Architect Peter David Gilbert left the outdoor fireplace in its pre-Firestorm location, designing the garden around it.

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Winans

FROM PAGE B1

Ask the right questions

The remodeling contractor possibilities are as varied as the client possibilities. Clients needs to find the right match for his needs, personality and budget. How does that happen? Let's look at some of the qualities you might be interested in your remodeling contractor possessing.

Can the company build your project? This sounds like a very obvious question. Keep in mind that there are many niches in the remodeling world. It can be dangerous to assume that a kitchen remodeling company can replace the foundation of your house. Perhaps they can but that would be very unusual.

Ask the contractor for examples of projects the company has built which are similar to the work you would like to have done.

How does the company work? You probably have some idea of the level of service and attention you want from the company working on your house. Possibilities include from no contact except what is essential with the contractor all the way to total access 24 hours a day to the contractor. Ask enough questions to make sure that the way the contractor conducts business meshes with your idea of what your needs are.

How is the company structured? What do you want? You could hire a single person company, where the owner does all the work himself and is only doing one project at a time. On the other hand you could hire a company that consists of several people who have divided up the responsibilities, each doing what they do best to serve your needs. Both approaches have pluses and minuses.

The very small company delivers constant contact with the business owner. However, if the owner is sick, etc., no work gets done. The structured company provides the benefit of collective experience, with

each person doing what he does best. But you do not interact with the business owner as much.

Decide what you want.

Get the answers to your questions. What is the best way to find out the answers to all your questions? Speak with former clients of the companies you are considering.

A good contractor will always be able to supply references. You do not need a lot of names. Do call all the references. Speak with at least three. That way you will get a variety of opinions.

Ask them any question which will help you decide about with whom to work. Try to ask the question so that it can not be answered with a "yes" or "no". Try to get the reference to just start talking. People want you to know what they know. Sometimes you can't get them to stop!

Keep notes so that you will be able to compare the information about the different contractors. Notes help you remember more accurately.

Some considerations to keep in mind. The right contractor is someone you trust and who substantiates that trust by what he does. You are taking a risk when you employ any service provider. You can not touch what he is selling. You are going on faith and it is scary.

Do whatever you need to do to minimize the risk. The company you hire will be in your house when no one else is. How do you feel about that? No question is a stupid question except the one you did not ask.

If you do a good job the remodeling contractor you invite to be part of your team will be the winner of your Most Valuable Player award at the end of the job. Now go out there and find the right company!

Paul Winans is a co-owner of Winans Construction, Inc., an Oakland-based residential remodeling company. You can contact Winans Construction at 510-653-7288 and learn more about them at www.winansinc.com.

Appreciating a master of decoration

Number 379 in a series of true experiences in real estate

We saw this week in Berkeley — with pleasure — a staging job done by Sahdu Mannell who has staged a number of houses for clients of our own. This time, however, it was not our listing but that of a colleague. So we hadn't seen the house in its "before" state; we were seeing it for the first time beautifully ready to be shown to agents and buyers.

The house looks wonderful all spanning clean and well decorated, but I was sorry to have missed knowing what it was like before the recent improvements. It's great fun to watch houses change, often dramatically, with painting and cleaning.

But the frosting is the best part, when the stager rearranges, subtracts and/or adds furnishings. Sahdu possesses a keen eye for color, scale and placement.

She uses furniture, flowers and accessories to fine advantage, so successfully that I find myself gliding through houses she has staged focusing, I am sure, on precisely the pieces of the design she intended for me to see. There is never a jamb-up, a visual dead-end.

Instead I experience an easy flow from one room to the next with treats for my eye all along the way. Each of these treats seems simple enough in itself, but when I stop to think about almost any one of them, I am impressed and delighted by Sahdu's brilliant execution.

This latest house is an unoccupied two-story Victorian with a smallish parlor at the front and a formal dining room behind it, followed by a good-sized kitchen and half bath. Upstairs are a full bath and 3 bedrooms. As part of this job, Sahdu chose the interior paint colors, and after the painting and cleaning, I was complete, she brought in furnishings for all of the rooms.

She used things of her own and some that are ours. We keep for the use of our stagers a garage full of chairs, lamps, rugs, tables, cushions and the like. Some of our collection came to us as gifts from clients, some from our own homes, but

most belonged to my mother. We moved many of my mother's things to the garage after she died, and I am so glad that we did, because now I get to see many of her treasures used in staging.

My mother would certainly approve. She appreciated good design and frequently rotated accessories in her house for her

In this house Sahdu used, as she often does, a number of wall hung mirrors, candles (taper and votive), also crisply ironed linens, and large, blowy bouquets. Let-in-the-light sheer curtains hang at most of the freshly washed windows.

The closets contain a minimum, just enough to emphasize the space inside when the

But the frosting is the best part, when the stager rearranges, subtracts and/or adds furnishings. Sahdu possesses a keen eye for color, scale and placement. She uses furniture, flowers and accessories to fine advantage, so successfully that I find myself gliding through houses she has staged focusing, I am sure, on precisely the pieces of the design she intended for me to see.

own visual pleasure. And I get such a kick out of going to a house and being surprised by seeing my mom's belongings. Here in this pretty house, Sahdu chose a number of my mother's china teacups, plates, and vases.

She placed a pretty bedside table, a favorite of my mother's, in one of the bedrooms. Laid out in the kitchen are leaf-shaped, green ceramic salad plates my mother made in a ceramics class during the 1950s.

Covered with a white cutwork cloth, it's my mom's wooden kitchen table and chairs that were used.

Had I brought them home, they'd likely have remained hidden in a cupboard or packed away in the basement. But as "fodder" for our stagers, they are enjoyed over and over again.

Presented with a new item, large or small, the stagers immediately imagine the possibilities for using it. Whatever the item, it will likely someday become a part of one of their tableaux. As with any artist, it is which items are put together and how the elements are arranged that become distinctively their own art.



TARPOFF AND NADER
Real Estate Agents

look at it first before moving to what else the room needs. That is what good staging does: it guides the eye. The objective is not to cover anything unfortunate (removable stagers will not do that) but to move visitors through a house physically, visually and pleasantly.

Walking through this house makes me want to provide materials for our stagers. I'd like more rugs, different chairs and lamps and believe me I would enjoy making stagers Sahdu and the other stagers ever changing feast of supplies from which to choose.

I frequently daydream about having a "lending library" of other people's goods, treasures that they have tucked away aren't using, and would enjoy visiting at staged houses, to do my mother's things.

When I go to flea markets and as I peruse catalogs, I am on the lookout for further inventory. Maybe I need to go to the estate sale business. That would be fun and would probably reveal some things we can put to good use.

Sahdu says that her favorite part of her job is seeing how different objects look in different settings. She likes the many possibilities of a single item which is good, because our stockpile is limited.

She loves her job, as do the stagers we know and especially she enjoys the overall effect she has created when the job is done. If you would like to see this most recent accomplishment of Sahdu's, the house is located at 2222 Blaine St., Berkeley, about 2 blocks from Shattuck. It will be open Sunday, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Anet Tarporff and Pat Nader are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer home real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patnader@comcast.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

Continuing education at OAR

Continuing education is available at the Oakland Association of Realtors. Earn 45 hours of DRE credit from 9 a.m. to noon, on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

The course includes home study, live review, testing and certification. Home study topics are ethics, fair housing, trust fund handling and agency legal up-

dates. There is a no pass-no pay guarantee. A continental breakfast will be served.

This opportunity is brought to you by Harvey Gabel of Chicago Title. Seating is limited and advance registration is required.

For more information contact Mary Walton at the OAR office, 510-836-3000.

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An inspirational home offering seclusion and style amid the trees. Unique architecture captures the serenity of nature and light through soaring spaces. Huge deck is perfect for entertaining. Just minutes to trails, shopping and highways. \$475,000

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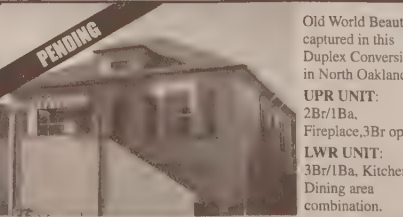
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Real Estate & Home

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Oct. 20, 1991: Suddenly homeless

Realtor, columnist Gayle

looks back at the
... storm
... to believe 10 years
... since the devastat-
... storm that reduced
... Oak and hills
... ash and rubble. The
... after the fire looked
... one of that of an
... On that infa-
... at Oct. 20, 1991 I be-
... along with thou-
... owners
... morning of Sunday, Oct
... were wild and ex-
... thought to myself,
... hang up my laundry
... dry as clothes will dry
... thereafter, I saw
... smoke rising from above
... I made a few
... even to the Club at
... to see if everything was OK.
... no one thought there
... real threat. Soon I saw the
... starting to rage in Hiller.
... moved quickly. All I could
... a huge wall of fire that went
... way down to Highway 24.

My parents lived in Hiller at that time and I thought they wouldn't be able to escape. I lost phone communication and had no way to know. I remember just screaming at the top of my lungs on my back patio. The flames now jumped the freeway and were in the tops of the Monterey Pines on my street, Contra Costa Road.

Now I knew I didn't have a moment to spare and grabbed my cat, Star, and fled in my car. Thinking about taking anything crossed my mind only briefly. I just knew I needed to get moving and fast.

My parents made it down Hiller Drive to safety.

For months after the fire I felt very displaced. Losing your home and all your personal belongings is a feeling that is hard to describe to others. There was such a yearning to just go home. Many of us who belonged to Highlands Country Club always felt like it was our second home but it was also now gone. The sense of loss was overwhelming for a very long time.



GAYLE TANTAU
Curb Appeal

Tomorrow I will celebrate the grand recovery of our neighborhood. As the years pass by the pain of the disaster and the trials and tribulations of the post years that followed lessens with time.

Probably about 50 percent or so of my neighbors went through the rebuilding process. The fire survivors endured problems with their insurance companies, contractors and the nuisance of noise and dirt that went on for years. I can't imagine why any of us are still sane. I guess that's questionable!

Now, in October 2001, we are all enjoying a beautiful neighborhood. Many of the houses don't look quite so enormous as the trees and gardens have helped to soften the starkness of the houses.

Prices have skyrocketed which we never expected. I look at it as reward for all those years of major inconvenience.

My neighborhood is as possible in the event



REALTOR, COLUMNIST GAYLE TANTAU sifts through the remains of the Oct. 20, 1991 firestorm. Tantau says that hot and windy days in October always bring back the memories of that horrific day

Mortgage rates tumble for sixth consecutive week

Rates on adjustable rate mortgages may fall further, Oct.

... in Freddie Mac's
... Mortgage Market Survey,
... 30-year fixed-rate mortgage av-
... 6.58 percent, with an aver-
... of 0.9 point (1 point equals
... percent of the loan amount), for
... week ending Oct. 12.
... The bellwether rate fell 6 basis
... from 6.64 percent last week.
... year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate
... average was 7.84 per-

cent. The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage has not been lower since the week ending Oct. 9, 1998, when it averaged 6.49 percent.

The average for the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage this week is 6.06 percent, with an average cost of 0.9 point.

This popular refinancing tool fell 5 basis points from last week when it averaged 6.11 percent. A year ago, the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.52 percent.

The 15-year fixed-rate mortgage

See **RATES**, Page B4

The GRUBB Co.



7028 Thornhill Drive, Montclair
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming 3BR/2BA English traditional is a blend of old-world charm and new-age sophistication. Exquisite detailing. Rumpus room, new kitchen and wonderful SF Bay view.
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Julie Nachtwey (510) 540-8743

OPEN SUN 2-4:30

3921 Coolidge Ave. - Oakland, CA 94602
Smell the flowers and relax in the lush, private rear garden of this 2 plus bedroom charmer. This delightful home features a plus room with a picture window looking out to the garden, and a large front room. Great area, first time open!

Asking price \$349,000

For further information contact:
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Asking price \$675,000

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A look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Building Education Center

If you're handy around the house or want to learn how, the Building Education Center in Berkeley is the place for you. BEC provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. Topics cover power tools, concrete work, retrofitting, plumbing, interior design, carpentry and solar electricity, to name only a few. You can call the center for class information and cost. Contact **Sydney** at 510-525-7610 or visit the Web site at bldg-edc.org.

Homeownership Help

Down payment and closing cost assistance is offered through the City of Hayward to first time homebuyers. "There are still affordable homes in Hayward," commented Home Ownership Coordinator **Sam Thompson**. Buyers are required to purchase in Hayward and attend a Homeownership Class. Classes are on a monthly basis, as long as funds are available. To find out more

about classes and other requirements call 510-583-4244.

McCormack's Guides

McCormack's Guides are still available. These relocation/newcomer guide books are more than a directory. The books are loaded with information such as academic rankings for local public schools, SAT scores for local high schools, city profiles and directories of hospitals and private schools. Want to know where to go and what to do? It's in the Guide. Buy 10 or more for a savings of over 50%. For costs and order information call 1-800-222-3602.

Home Buying The First Time

Attend a free first time homebuyer's seminar. **Michael J. Smith & Associates Real Estate Company** presents ongoing seminars for those interested in learning the ins and outs of homebuying. A variety of topics are covered, including how to buy for no money down. To register for a future seminar call 510-430-8484. REALTOR.com

If you are interested in buying or selling real estate research reports confirm that REALTOR.com remains the number one website choice of consumers. "REALTOR.com is the most useful place to visit for people with an interest in real estate," said National Association of Realtors President Richard A. Mendenhall. The site receives support from hundreds of thousands of Realtors. Check it out at REALTOR.com.

REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT TRAINING

The Oakland Association of Realtors is offering "The Assistant Training Program", a four part course to train real estate assistants. This course is being presented in cooperation with the Contra Costa and Delta Association of Realtors. Real Estate Business Service, Inc., a subsidiary of The California Association of Realtors will instruct. Assistants will learn the steps of the transaction, what they can and cannot do and technology to make their jobs easier. The program is held on Dec. 4, 6, 11 and 13. The location is the Contra Costa Association of Realtors in Walnut Creek. The fee for the complete four course program is \$195 or \$75 per course. For registration or an informational flyer contact **Laura Bailey** at 925-295-9238.

SRES DESIGNATION SEMINAR

The Alameda Association of Realtors in conjunction with SAREC (Senior Advantage Real Estate Council) presents "A Licensee's Guide to Working With Seniors." This two day seminar is offered to Realtors who wish to obtain the SRES (Senior's Real Estate Specialist) National Designation. The

course is approved for 12 hours of continuing education by the DRE. The location is the Elk's Lodge on Santa Clara, in Alameda. It will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday and Friday, Nov. 8 and 9. The instructor is Tim Corliss, SRES Founding Director. Complimentary breakfast, lunch and snacks are included. For tuition and additional information call local contact **Bette Barr** at 510-522-8585 or check out the Web site at www.seniorsrealestate.com

E-PRO CERTIFICATION

The National Association of Realtors introduced the new e-PRO, a real estate industry technology certification program for real estate professionals. The e-PRO course was designed by realtors for realtors. The course is presented entirely online and certifies real agents and brokers as Internet Professionals. Realtors are able to complete their studies at their own pace. If you are interested in learning more visit www.eProNAR.com

HELP WANTED

Kathleen Adams of First American Home Buyers Protection is the 2002 Program Chairperson for the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter. Adams is looking for speakers for the Chapter's monthly meetings. If you are interested in doing a presentation for the group or want to recommend someone, contact Adams at 800-444-9030.

OUR FUND FOR FOUNDATION GROWS

Her promise grew to become. The Oakland Association of Realtors wants to do something extra to help support the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. The foundation provides college scholarship funds for Oakland high school students. A committee, chaired by **Evelyn Walker** of Coldwell Banker was formed to create a simple and easy way for those in the real estate community to contribute. Real estate agents and brokers may designate contributions. At the close of escrow, for a special fund, the proceeds of the fund will be donated to the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. Over \$14,000 has been raised so far, but to reach the end of November goal of \$18,000 everyone's help is needed. To find out more and participate contact Walker at 510-339-4778

LICENSE: RENEWAL OR BROKERS

Duane Gomer Seminars offer classes for DRE license renewal and broker license testing preparation. For anyone needing license renewal all 45 hours of DRE tests are available in 1/2 day sessions. Courses and test preparation are offered for the brokers license State Exam. To ask about class schedules and costs call 1-800-439-4909

OUR CONTINUING ED

Continuing education is available

Rates

FROM PAGE B3

has not been this low since Freddie Mac began tracking it in 1991.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.26 percent this week, with an average 0.9 point, down from last week's average of 5.34 percent. This time last year, the one-year ARM averaged 7.23 percent. The one-year ARM has not been this low since the week ending Feb. 16, 1996, when it averaged 5.19 percent.

"Although mortgage rates

dropped this week, we would not be surprised to see adjustable rate mortgage rates drop even further in the coming weeks," said Robert Van Order, Freddie Mac chief economist. "This is because the ARMs more closely respond to actions taken by the Federal Reserve Board and current expectations are that the Fed will cut rates by one-half of a percent by the end of the year."

"Fixed-rate mortgages, on the other hand, are expected to rise slightly because of proposed fiscal measures that are aimed at energizing the economy, but which will also bring back the budget deficit."

Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. "Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

NEW LISTING!

Open Sunday • October 21 • 2-4:30pm



6630 GATTO AVENUE, EL CERRITO

Set in an artfully landscaped hillside just below Canyon Trail Park, this handsome Japanese style home combines serenity, simplicity, and architectural integrity. There are 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a generous family room, lovely rear garden, and sweeping Bay, bridge, and city views.

Offered at \$465,000

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5 bedrooms - 3 1/2 baths
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OPEN SUNDAY • OCTOBER 21 • 2-4:30

5720 Moraga Avenue, Oakland

This lovely Montclair home has two bedrooms, a den, two bathrooms, and a very large, wooded lot. The property is also enhanced by a large deck, a 2-car garage and plenty of additional off-street parking.

Attractively priced at \$560,000



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1881 Gresham Drive, Alameda

Open Sunday 2-4 pm

Like a Model - Only 2 Years Old. 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, private master suite, hardwood floors, upgraded tile and carpet. All appliances stay - MUST SEE!

Asking \$469,000.

8048 Greenly Drive (Keller exit)

By Appointment. Must see this secluded cottage. Use as a 3+ bdrm w/loft. Sparkling in-ground swimming pool - this home is not a fixer! Financing available. Beautiful cottage in Oakland. 2+ bedrooms, hwd flrs, eat-in kit w/French drs leading to large deck. Den and loft area built w/o permits. Cedar closets, inside laundry, spacious pantry. New Pergo floor in kit. Roof 2 yrs new. Woodburning stove in LR. Super quiet area surrounded by greenery.

ONLY \$358,000

7975 Phaeton Above 580, Oakland

All on One level - no stairs. 4 bedroom, 3 bath, home located just below Skyline Blvd. Sweeping Bay View, sparkling pool, massive deck, granite kitchen & entry, marble bathrooms, hardwood floors throughout. Approx. 9,700 sq. ft. lot, breathtaking garden expertly designed by "Yoshi".

Seller may trade.

REDUCED TO \$589,000

Live in Jack London Square. Steps from the waterfront, theatre, shopping and excitement. Walk to work. Super private location. Large private balcony. \$40,000 down financing available.

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Open Sunday October 21, 2-4pm



1160 Sterling Avenue, Berkeley

Sensational sunsets and unobstructed San Francisco & Golden Gate views from 2 decks & nearly every room! Soaring ceilings, expansive living/dining room! Serene master suite with a bed & bath! Versatile floor plan includes loft study, library, family room!

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Open Sun. • Oct. 21st • 2-4:30pm



3300 WISCONSIN STREET, OAKLAND

Spacious, sun-filled 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large sunroom. Built in 1960. Beautiful tiered rear yard with fruit trees. Very private and very clean. Redwood Heights Grammar School. Close to transportation, shopping and schools.

Offered at \$449,000



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PACIFIC UNION



BOBBIE REID

at the Oakland Association of Realtors. Earn 45 hours of DRE from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Nov. 7. The course includes home study, live review, testing, ethics, fair housing, trust law, and agency law. There is a no pass-no pay fee. A continental breakfast is served. This opportunity is to you by **Harvey Gabel** of Title. Seating is limited. Seats must register in advance. For more information contact Gabel at the OAR office, 510-339-4778

MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS NEWS

Attention Mortgage Professionals. Learning more about the industry is as important as part of that industry. The California Association of Residential Mortgage Brokers (CARL) and the California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strive to keep mortgage professionals up-to-date with quality continuing education. Both have seminars on timely topics. CARL is held on the second Thursday of the month beginning with

REID

Good time for 'ole timers' at annual affair



BY BOBBIE REID
CORRESPONDENT

Over 60 longtime members of the real estate community attended the Real Estate Ole Timer's Reunion Luncheon. The reunion started 10 years ago and is the brainchild of Bob Valva of Valva Realty in Oakland. "It's an opportunity to get together with friends

and industry acquaintances from the past," said Valva. "This reunion is a fun and easy way to catch up."

Real estate agents and affiliates from Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and San Leandro, aged 55 and over, or with 20 years in the industry were invited. Industry affiliates were included for the

first time. The luncheon was held at The Ark at Pier 29 Restaurant in Oakland.

Several special guests attended. Some informational words were given by Mayor Laura Davis of Emeryville. Other special guests included Emma Becton of EB Realty and president of the Associated Real Property Brokers, General Manager Colleen Porter of the Oakland Association of Realtors and Ora McCoy, the first black broker to become president of Southern Alameda County Board of Realtors.

MEMBERS OF THE REAL ESTATE COMMUNITY GATHERED at the Real Estate Ole Timer's Reunion. Pictured left to right are Senior Chief Title officer Bill O'Connell of North American Title Company, Host Bob Valva of Valva Realty, President Emma Becton of the Associated Real Property Brokers and Past-President of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, Ernest Clark of Seville Real Estate.

Valva has already started the invitation list for the 2002 reunion. To put your name on the mailing list call Valva at 510-451-7317.

Coldwell Banker will host 'Open House Extravaganza'

More than 2,000 Bay Area homes will be open this Sunday

COLDWELL BANKER

Turn on those lava lamps and take up those hip huggers: Coldwell Banker Northern California says, "We're going back to the future."

With the recent interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve Board, mortgage rates have dropped to their lowest levels since the early 1960s.

Fixed-rate mortgages are now under 7 percent, a rate that hasn't been seen since the Kennedy administration. And with the inventory of available homes rising and prices leveling off or even dropping, consumers should strongly consider whether now is the right time to buy.

Coldwell Banker Northern California, the leading provider of real estate services in the region, will help prospective buyers with an Open House Extravaganza this Sunday, the more than 2,000 homes throughout the greater Bay Area will be open from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., showcasing the wide range of homes currently available on the market.

According to Avram Goldman, Coldwell Banker Northern California president and chief operating officer, home buyers who have been standing on the sidelines for

the past couple of years as home prices soared now have a chance to jump back into the market. "All the stars seem to be in alignment right now with low rates and a leveling off of prices," he said.

"For a number of reasons, there may not be a better time to consider buying a home."

Potential buyers touring Coldwell Banker homes at the Open House Extravaganza won't have to go far to find financing.

In response to the recent interest rate cuts Coldwell Banker Mortgage representatives will be on hand at various open houses to answer questions about current rates.

Additionally, the company is offering a savings of up to \$300 on closing costs by picking up a coupon at one of the listed Coldwell Banker open homes.

To be eligible for the \$300 credit, buyers must have an executed contract of sale and a fully completed application for a first mortgage loan with Coldwell Banker Mortgage between Oct. 21 and Nov. 30.

Attendees will also be entered to win a big-screen television with movies from the 1960s.

For additional details on the Open House Extravaganza or to pick up your personal tour map contact your local Coldwell Banker office today.

Reid

FROM PAGE B4

at 6 p.m. Networking also kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call these organization's hot lines. The CARL Hotline is 925-746-1847. The CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call Pat Johnson of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

■ Seen at the Ole Timer's Reunion, **Georgia Richardson** of Richardson Real Estate. Richardson is the 2003 President Elect of the Oakland Association of Realtors

Give her a call at 510-569-3499.

■ Seen at the Ole Timer's Reunion. Realtor **Bill Russell**. Although claiming to be retired we found out Russell teaches Finance and Economics at Merritt College. He is also President of the Retirement Board for the Oakland Municipal Employees' Retirement System. Some retirement! To catch up, call him at 510-864-2657.

■ Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. All my contact info is listed below.

WHAT'S UP DOC??

I need your information for this column. Fund-raisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). I want to know it all. Information deadline is two weeks before the event.

There are three convenient ways to reach me. Send an email to bobbierid@dotplanet.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

2818-20 CHERRY
BERKELEY

Exquisite location

Charming Berkeley duplex. High ceilings, hardwood floors, light filled rooms, delightful garden.

Down: 2/1 Up: 1+1
Walk everywhere!

Francine Di Palma
510-280-2148
RED OAK REALTY

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA	EL SOBRANTE
34 Brehaut Ct - \$470,000	914 Mitchell Wy - \$305,000
1828 Cambridge Dr - \$565,000	
1073 Camino Del Valle - \$370,000	EMERYVILLE
1211 Court St - \$406,000	6 Admiral Dr #A39 - \$235,000
1515 Everett St - \$240,000	6 Admiral Dr #A48 - \$204,000
624 Haight Ave #A - \$236,000	4 Captain Dr #E20 - \$218,000
1075 Jost Ln - \$324,000	91 Emery Bay Dr - \$240,000
325 Kitty Hawk #103 - \$230,000	
2203 Lincoln Pl - \$415,000	KENSINGTON
1192 Old Alameda Pl - \$374,000	281 Grizzly Peak Bl - \$572,000
2801 Otis Dr - \$475,000	223 Kenyon Ave - \$450,000
915 Pacific Ave - \$350,000	
2101 Shoreline #269 - \$285,000	OAKLAND
955 Shorepoint #306 - \$255,000	2236 10th Av - \$293,500
950 Shorepoint Ct - \$265,000	1835 14th Av - \$219,000
5 Whimbrel Ct - \$399,000	3072 22nd Av - \$225,000
	1366 34th St - \$205,000
ALBANY	2200 41st Av - \$229,000
819 Cerrito St - \$228,500	709 45th St - \$220,000
1436 Portland Av - \$583,000	964 54th St - \$250,000
	964 62nd St - \$265,000
BERKELEY	2333 64th Av - \$225,000
1849 Arch St #B - \$470,000	1907 70th Av - \$140,000
907 Bancroft Wy - \$415,000	1094 71st Av - \$180,000
51 Bret Harte Rd - \$592,000	1122 89th Av - \$175,000
2544 Etna St - \$695,000	485 8th St #201 - \$209,000
1356 Henry St - \$431,000	1817 98th Av - \$195,000
2922 Hillegass Av #A - \$232,000	8823 A St - \$255,000
1609 Josephine St - \$701,000	1730 Alhambra Ln - \$495,000
2700 Le Conte #305 - \$279,000	1850 Arrowhead Dr - \$735,000
2700 Le Conte #403 - \$292,500	8327 Aster Av - \$310,000
3121 Mabel St - \$314,000	1657 Auseon Av - \$235,000
15 Northampton Av - \$750,000	3708 Balfour Av - \$560,000
1209 Oregon St - \$369,000	1630 Bridge Av - \$219,000
1300 Parker St - \$360,000	1806 Bridge Av - \$190,000
2212 Rose St - \$415,000	10415 Byron Av - \$183,500
1419 Santa Fe Av - \$358,000	730 Canyon Oaks #B - \$215,000
3113 Shattuck Av #1 - \$317,500	5445 Carlton St - \$459,000
1441 Summit Rd - \$601,000	400 Caswell Av - \$140,000
2425 Woolsey St - \$875,000	2920 Chapman St - \$240,000
1941 Yosemite Rd - \$905,000	7727 Claremont Av - \$595,000
	9280 D St - \$250,000
	3820 Delmont Av - \$175,000
	1823 Drake Dr - \$610,000
	4209 Dunsunmur Av - \$510,000
	2053 Durant Av - \$325,000
	2248 East 21st St - \$251,000
	2514 East 22nd St - \$321,000
	3221 East 23rd St - \$220,000
	9115 Empire Rd - \$142,000

See SALES, Page B6

Please
recycle this
newspaper.

Montclair
\$499,000
8111 SKYLINE BLVD.

*** 3 BEDROOM/2 BATH**
*** BAY VIEW**
*** BACKYARD**

JACKIE CARTER
RE/MAX PIONEER
(510) 632-2539
(510) 569-2992 FAX

Jackie Carter

Montclair Better Homes Realty

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Laurel Strand
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Architectural Digest!

JUST LISTED Space and elegance take on a whole new meaning in this stunningly conceived contemporary. Walls of glass, incredible private grounds, .30 acre lot, and an elegant timeless floor design make this almost level 4+ BD, 3 BA home a very rare find!

25 Shawnee Court - Oakland
\$799,000

Fritz Hochfellner
510-339-4766
www.fritzsellshomes.com

COLDWELL BANKER

Patricia Kennedy
Your Realtor for 2000 and Beyond

EVELYN KENNEDY
YOU CAN DEPEND ON ME!
510-748-1120
www.evelynkennedy.com
evelynsells@juno.com

1201 Buena Vista Ave., Alameda

\$359,000

COMING SOON:
"A" Model in Prestine Condition

1905 Sandcreek Way

SOUTH SHORE RANCH
\$475,000

3 bedrooms, 2 baths, remodeled kitchen, family room, private back yard with patio, garden, deck & hot tub. Close to shopping & beach. Call Evelyn Kennedy, 748-1120.

The GRUBB Co.
and
Carolyn Jones
present

5917 Chaboly Terrace, Rockridge
Offered at \$499,000
339.0400/339
GRUBB.CO.COM

Sales

FROM PAGE B5

3311 Encina Av - \$282,500
 9120 Golf Links Rd - \$300,000
 4869 Harbord Dr - \$720,000
 5928 Hilton St - \$183,000
 4433 Hyacinth Av - \$332,000
 8206 Iris St - \$215,500
 3169 Kingsland Av - \$190,000
 5815 Kingsley Cr - \$137,000
 5935 La Salle Av - \$495,000
 320 Lee St #110 - \$215,000
 1784 Leimert Bl - \$640,000
 325 Lenox Av #108 - \$241,500
 325 Lenox Av #110 - \$180,000
 10535 Link St - \$242,000
 5369 Locksley Av - \$450,000
 6020 MacArthur Bl - \$300,000
 3664 Madrone Av - \$300,000
 260 Mather St - \$425,000
 2906 Maxwell Av - \$175,000
 2133 Mitchell St - \$300,000
 199 Montecito #208 - \$179,000
 600 Mountain Bl - \$625,000
 4440 Mountain View - \$529,000
 651 Oakland Av #1G - \$140,000
 7046 Outlook Av - \$261,500
 330 Park View T#100 - \$200,000
 3051 Partridge Av - \$250,000
 4117 Pennington Ct - \$241,000
 50 Pine Hills Ct - \$865,000
 6018 Pinewood Rd - \$865,000
 4635 San Sebastian - \$506,000
 195 Santa Clara #10 - \$243,000
 5885 Scarborough Dr - \$564,000
 3900 Sequoyah Rd - \$415,000

8021 Shay Dr - \$566,000
 9861 Iulier Av - \$199,000
 22 Town Square Pl - \$245,000
 285 Tunis Rd - \$180,000
 3726 Victor Av - \$495,000
 1023 West Grand Av - \$300,000
 4379 Whittle Av - \$459,000

PIEDMONT

68 Bellevue Av - \$1,495,000
 183 Indian Rd - \$1,855,000
 17 Richardson Wy - \$1,430,000
 305 St. James Dr - \$860,000
 2 York Dr - \$840,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 16
 LOWEST PRICE: \$230,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$565,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$353,688

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 2
 LOWEST PRICE: \$228,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$583,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$405,750

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 19
 LOWEST PRICE: \$232,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$905,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$415,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$493,263

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 7
 LOWEST PRICE: \$301,500
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$580,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$500,500
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$463,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 1
 PRICE: \$305,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 4
 LOWEST PRICE: \$204,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$240,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$224,250

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2
 LOWEST PRICE: \$450,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$572,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$511,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 78
 LOWEST PRICE: \$137,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$865,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$324,577

PITTSBURGH

TOTAL SALES: 5
 LOWEST PRICE: \$660,000
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,855,000
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,430,000
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,256,000

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office. All questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233 or TitleNotes@aol.com.

The Building Education Center offers

Berkeley's Building Education Center offers the following classes:

■ Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Earthquake Retrofitting." A seminar with engineer and seismic contractor Jim Gillett. \$75.
 ■ Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Estimating the Cost of Labor and Materials." A seminar with general contractor Michael McCutcheon. \$75.
 ■ Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. "Plumbing: Hands-on." A workshop with

plumbing contractor Stuart L. \$195

■ Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. "Hardwood Floor Refinishing on-site workshop with contractor Tim Margets. \$180.
 ■ Sunday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. "Finishing a Room: A hands-on workshop with contractor Stem of Devo Art. \$65.
 The Building Education Center is located at 812 Page St. in Berkeley. To learn more, call 510-526-



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AMM HOME ST. OAKLAND 94611, R.F. BROKER - CA. DCA 00000000000000000000

BERKELEY CRAFTSMAN

943 Fresno Ave.



This home has it all! Great location, beautiful woodwork, hardwood floors, new kitchen, updated plumbing, heating, electrical and paint. Walk to Solano Ave. Three bedrooms and one bath, formal dining room with built-in detached garage. Offered at \$549,000.

Security Pacific Home Lenders Experience

Call Jamie Lake @ (510) 662-8487

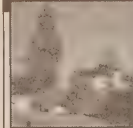
RON SPITZ
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PIEDMONT PINES - Beautiful contemporary built in 1999. Large 3442 sq. ft. home with 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath. Granite kitchen counters, family room, 2 fireplaces, exquisite detailing. Offered at \$759,000.



SEQUOYAH HILLS - Spanish Mediterranean with original detailing, balconies, wrought iron, built in 1930. 2500 Square foot, 3-4 bedroom, 3 bath, family room, double lot, a must see! Offered at \$849,000.

PIEDMONT PINES

Open Sunday 10/21



3030 Holyrood Dr.

Spectacular Retreat

Get away from it all! Cozy romantic retreat, lg. pool, spectacular view, guest house, Great entertaining. Magical home situated on about two-thirds acre with 2 houses, large pool, view, wine cellar and lush, mature gardens.

Offered at \$849,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

IPRIX Tour at www.ebnorcal.com

COLDWELL BANKER

COMING SOON



This delightful two-story Mediterranean has three spacious bedrooms, including master suite, and two and a half baths. Loaded with 1930's charm and detail. For more information please contact me.



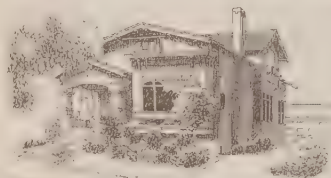
Kathleen Callahan

Associate Broker
 Bus: (510) 339-6460 x343
 email: kcallahan@pacunion.com

Visit us at www.pacunion.com

HEART OF ROCKRIDGE

Open Sunday • October 21 • 2-4:30 pm



5681 Keith Avenue, Oakland

Live in the heart of Rockridge and throw away your car keys! This great 1912, 2-story craftsman home has large, bright rooms with lots of original architectural interest. Located near (1/2 block) wonderful restaurants and shops, it's the ultimate in urban living!

Offered at \$569,000

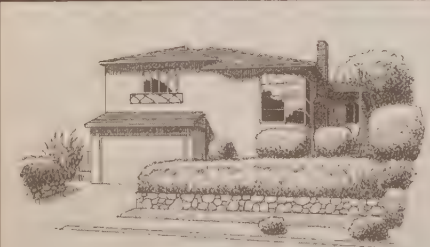


Vicki Woodhead
 Senior Sales Consultant
 Bus: (510) 339-6460 x 334
 Visit us at www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

REDWOOD HEIGHTS

Open Sun. • Oct. 21 • 2-4:30pm



3658 MONTEREY BLVD., OAKLAND

Wonderful spacious Traditional with 3 bedrooms/2 baths. Sunny exposure throughout. French doors off formal dining to patio and garden. Large living room with fireplace. Some Bay views from master bedroom. A truly comfortable home.

Offered at \$459,000

YOUR REDWOOD HEIGHTS SPECIALIST



Diane Earl McCan

Senior Sales Consultant
 (510) 339-6460 x352

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PACIFIC UNION

NEW LISTING!

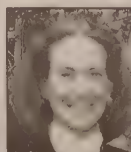
Open Sunday • October 21 • 2-5pm



3076 BUENA VISTA WAY, BERKELEY

Built discreetly into its 1/4 acre hillside in 1962, this powerful architectural statement has stood the test of time, combining strong materials, bold shapes, soaring spaces, walls of light and gorgeous Bay views in a home that is as livable as it is beautiful. There are 3 bedrooms plus study or nursery, mezzanine gallery, kitchen/family room, and wonderful outdoor living.

Offered at \$847,000



For more information please call
 Gini Erck

Senior Sales Associate
 Bus: (510) 339-6460 x339
 Virtual tour at www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

Joseph & Lindsey REALTORS

521-8181

523-1000

OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 3261 BONA ST. LOCATED ON A CUTE LITTLE STREET. 2 bdrm. 1 bath. Why rent when you can own? \$235,000. Call Kelko McDonah. 510-522-4449. Honesty & Diligence.

2901 - 75th AVE. QUIET & CHARMING! Huge Tudor with oodles of space, 4+ bedrooms, 2+ baths, double garage, close to shopping & transportation. \$475,000. Mary Ann Herber. 510-568-2040.

3221 FLORIDA ST. PERFECT STARTER HOME IN THE LAUREL. With bonus detached office/studio space in the back. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Don't miss this one. It's priced to sell quickly. \$299,000. Michael Studebaker. 510-748-1129.

1332 E. 26th ST. LARGE DUPLEX IN NEW CHINATOWN AREA. Each unit with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, new roof, foundation. Beautiful owners unit with hardwood floors. \$499,000. Moon Tam. 510-747-1620.

PANORAMIC WAY. 2 LOTS. Approx. 2,500 sq. ft. each, located in the Oakland Hills above UC Berkeley. Great view of San Francisco Bay Area. Priced at \$45,000. Kathy Ghiselli. 510-522-6425.

RICHMOND

OPEN SUNDAY 1-5. 77 SANDPOINT DR. MARINA BAY. Absolutely gorgeous Marina Bay home. Steps to bay, trail, marina & convenient 1.580 access. \$487,000. View online at MichaelisList.com. Michael Studebaker. 510-748-1129.

We speak Mandarin, Cantonese and English
 我們精通國、粵、英語

CASTRO VALLEY

18803 HUBER DR. GASTRO HOME. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, master room with fireplace. New floor, new paint & exterior paint. Situated on a lot with building potential. MUST SEE! \$510,000. Kathy Ghiselli. 510-522-6425.

18313 PEPPER ST. ON QUITE DE-SAC. Great family home with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths in quiet neighborhood. Family room, hobby room, exercise room, patio with big deck. \$475,000. Lockhart. 510-748-1805.

ORINDA

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4. 320 DAVENPORT. GREAT FLOOR PLAN! All new hardwood floors, new kitchen, new paint, plus room at lower level. New master bedroom with new hardwood floor, interior/exterior paint, new carpet, garage. Close to freeway. \$699,000. Moon Tam. 510-747-1620.

DANVILLE

1055 SAN RAMON VALLEY. INVESTOR! SELLERS WANT! BACK. Approved for \$280,000. Great location, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom, wood floors down, carpet up. Laundry, upstairs. \$280,000. Call Ruth Masonik. 510-747-1620.

Moon Tam 510-747-1620
 Kim Hwa 510-747-1620

SALES - RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INVESTMENT - RENTALS, PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
 Sales@AlamedaRealEstate.com www.AlamedaRealEstate.com

~ Piedmont - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. ~

1 Sharon Court
PIEDMONT. Beautiful all level home in a private setting. Central brick patio, views. Great architectural detailing, high ceilings, 3BR/3BA & sun room. Katharine Cooper

Price Upon Request

6 Dormidera Avenue New Listing \$1,525,000
PIEDMONT. This elegant new country French masterpiece in central Piedmont has been exquisitely designed and rebuilt by a team of award winning professionals. Mindy Scott

510 Magnolia Avenue New Listing \$875,000
PIEDMONT. This all level home in central Piedmont includes 3BR/3BA plus den, family room, large patio and three car garage. Close to all conveniences. Angela Wei Grubb

1116 Oakland Avenue Price Upon Request
PIEDMONT. A wonderful home with spacious rooms including 3BR/2BA + rumpus. Private patio and sunny, pretty garden and two-car garage. Jean Simmons

~ Oakland - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. ~

6349 Swainland Road \$1,400,000
MONTCLAIR. Dramatic interior spaces create the ideal entertainment home. Approx. 4000 sq. ft. 5BR/4BA & breathtaking SF, Bay & Bridge views. John Karnay

2268 Leimert Boulevard \$1,328,000
OAKMORE. Dramatic views of SF, Bay & bridges, stunning materials & spatial drama have been artfully combined to create an exceptional new residence. Anian Pettit Tunney

801 Rosemount Rd. New Listing \$849,000
CROCKER HIGHLANDS. Elegant French country home w/ lovely garden & picket fence. 4BR/4BA including romantic master suite w/fireplace, library & updated kitchen. Steve Michaelides

6047 Snake Road New Price \$625,000
MONTCLAIR. Large 4BR/3BA + family room w/natural light & Bay views. 2 fireplaces. Dark room. Private setting w/elegant landscaping near shops & transportation. Chris Cohn

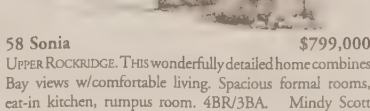
7128 Saroni Drive \$579,000
MONTCLAIR. Wonderful Montclair home in wooded, peaceful setting. A spacious 4BR/2BA traditional with private decks, updated kitchen and recreation/rumpus room. John Karnay



23 Observation Place New Listing \$1,168,000
MONTCLAIR. Just completed! Exclusive cul-de-sac off Skyline. Tasteful fusion of Tuscan & Santa Fe. Central courtyard. Dead-on Golden Gate, SF & Bay view. Debra J. Dryden

6555 Dawes \$1,150,000
PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR. Enjoy lovely sunsets from the patio or public rooms of this spacious 4BR/3.5BA all-level home. Jill Carrigan

6241 Buena Vista Ave. New Listing \$929,000
UPPER ROCKRIDGE. Spectacular English traditional w/ charming garden entry & elegant finishes, boasts breathtaking SF views from all levels. 3BR/3.5BA. Katie Harmon



58 Sonia \$799,000
UPPER ROCKRIDGE. This wonderfully detailed home combines Bay views w/comfortable living. Spacious formal rooms, eat-in kitchen, rumpus room. 4BR/3BA. Mindy Scott

290 Sheridan Road New Listing \$729,000
UPPER ROCKRIDGE. Designer's showcase. Dramatic lighting in living room & dining room. Gourmet kitchen, den & wine cellar. 3BR/2.5BA, deck & garden. John Karnay

7028 Thornhill Drive New Listing \$725,000
MONTCLAIR. Charming English traditional blends Old World charm & new age sophistication. 3BR/2BA w/views. Exquisite detailing. Rumpus & new kitchen. Cherie Curliano

5910 Ascot Drive \$699,000
MONTCLAIR. View, private & architectural. 4BR/3BA, SF views, level garden, hardwood floors, beautiful living room, formal dining room & family room. Carin Caroe



5927 Chaboly Terrace \$499,000
Rockridge. Location! Just blocks to BART & Market Hall. 3BR/1BA, updated kitchen w/island. Formal living room with fireplace, hardwood floors & level rear yard. Carolyn Jones

51 Teralynn Court \$369,000
OAKLAND HILLS. Contemporary townhome w/sweeping Bay views, vaulted ceilings, 2BR/2.5BA (two master suites) & 2 car garage. Close to parks & shopping. Sherry Benninger

3035 Chapman Street #2 \$329,000
FRUITVALE. Stunning live-work condominium in a three-unit complex. Large garden. Upper story is living space w/separate bedroom. Lower space has two work spaces. Erika Celestre

~ By Appointment ~

Piedmont Elegance \$2,850,000
Elegance! Over 1/3 acre. Beautiful gardens w/pool & spa 5BR/5+BA, family & rumpus room. Angela Wei Grubb

Skyline View Estate \$2,500,000
New Mediterranean designed by Albert Horowitz. Large front courtyard & incredible views. Debra J. Dryden

Piedmont Showcase New Listing \$1,935,000
Mediterranean showcase w/expansive gardens, European kitchen, sumptuous master retreat. Sandra Vogl

Claremont Pines Elegance \$1,725,000
Elegant architecture & exceptional detailing accent this 4 yr. old Mediterranean. 4BR/4BA w/SF views. John Karnay

Piedmont • View • View! \$1,575,000
Enjoy breathtaking views from this spectacular home, 5BR/3.5BA, cozy den & generous rumpus room. Mindy Scott

For Lease or For Sale \$1,499,000
Gorgeous 4+BR/2.5BA traditional w/family room, gardens, pool & extras. For Lease or For Sale. Katharine Cooper

Piedmont View Home \$1,069,000
Piedmont contemporary with spectacular views & privacy. Decks galore. 4BR/3BA. Must see! Angela Wei Grubb

21st Century Craftsmanship \$1,198,000
This exceptional new home in the hills w/peaceful views. Gourmet kitchen. 4BR/2.5BA + library/office. Jill Carrigan

Crocker Highlands Classic \$969,000
Crocker Highlands traditional w/original details. Updated kitchen & baths. 3BR/2.5BA. Lovely garden. Elizabeth Dickson

Exquisite Montclair \$829,000
Privately located w/vista views & dramatic architecture. Close to Village. Perfect floorplan. Sheila Gallagher

Park-Like Grounds \$730,000
Beautiful park-like grounds enhance this spacious home on the Piedmont side of Montclair. 4BR/3BA. Susanne Paul

Charming Berkeley \$649,500
1930's charm. 3BR/2BA + family room. Outstanding storage & workshop space. Chris Cohn

Panoramic SF View \$639,000
Beautiful & extensively remodeled, 3BR/2.5BA including master. Kitchen/family room combo. SF view. Kurt Buchholz

Heart of Glenview \$575,000
Charming & spacious traditional w/4BR/2BA, cook's kitchen, sunny deck & landscaped garden. Nancy Lehrkind

Classic Mediterranean \$449,000
Classic split-level Mediterranean with random plank floors, 3BR/2BA and level garden. Mavis Delacroix

Classic Craftsman \$425,000
Classic 3BR/2BA Craftsman w/fireplace, hardwood floors, beamed ceiling & gourmet kitchen. Great garden. Jill Carrigan

Lovely Laurel Bungalow \$349,000
Lovely Laurel bungalow with three bedrooms and two baths, cozy family room and level garden. Mavis Delacroix

Sophisticated Live/Work Loft \$295,000
Fabulous live/work. Many quality upgrades. Laundry, garden, patio & secure parking. Donna DeBardi

Open Sunday

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,875,000
5899 BUCKINGHAM (Open 2-4:30)
5BR/4.5BA. Splendid new home w/patio SF & GG views. Gourmet kit/fam rm. Luxury master suite. Approx. 1/2 acre. Nancy Noman x373



BRIDGE MONT \$1,680,000
1044 CAMPUS DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Magnificent new 5BR/4.5BA. Large, elegant home around a central courtyard. Dramatic living rm, canyon views, gourmet kit & luxurious master ste. David Ichikawa x331

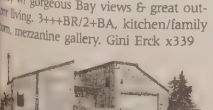
CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,600,000
1070 NORFOLK DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Spectacular 5BR/4.5BA w/great views. Executive office or guest suite. 4-car tandem garage. Private patio. Francis Heath x357



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$995,000
1044 BUENA VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Stylish 1997 Mediterranean with great Bay views. 4+BR/3BA, formal dining room, master suite with fireplace, terrace. Gini Erck x340

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$895,000
10 SHERIDAN RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Listings! Terrific 6-year old 5BR/3.5BA. 1st story loaded w/style. Offers easy living room. Level-in, yard & lower level w/entrance. Dee Knowland x318

BERKELEY \$847,000
1044 BUENA VISTA WAY (Open 2-5)
Stylish! Extraordinary custom contemporary w/ gorgeous Bay views & great outdoor living. 3+BR/2+BA, kitchen/family room, mezzanine gallery. Gini Erck x339



BERKELEY \$799,000
10 STERLING AVE. (Open 2-4)
Stylish contemporary w/piano views! 3BR/2+BA, dramatic living/dining room w/ mezzanine. Study, library & family room. Leslie Gordon x327 & Lori Arazzi x330

PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460

www.pacunion.com

Open Sunday



BERKELEY \$795,000
2222 BLAKE ST. (Open 2-4:30)
Tudor style w/wonderful architectural details. Incredibly charming garden Bay & Campanile views. Outstanding kitchen & master suite. 4BR/2BA. Ann Nichols x319

MONTCLAIR \$749,000
6097 COLTON BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
Level-in 4BR/3BA home w/SF, Bay & serene canyon views. Flexible floor plan, updated kitchen & hardwood floors. Prime location near the Village & freeways. Teri Carlisle x305

HILLCREST HIGHLANDS \$739,000
5815 BALMORAL DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Remodeled & expanded 5BR/4BA home. Great room w/beautiful kitchen, family room, decks & views. Approx. 3200 sq. ft. Donna Costella x355

MONTCLAIR \$729,000
1725 ALHAMBRA LN. (Open 2-4:30)
Reduced! 5BR/3BA home w/labulous floor plan. Dramatic 2-story living rm, kit/fam rm & 3 car garage. Quiet yet convenient location near Village. Yard. Teri Carlisle x305

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$725,000
741 SANTA RAY AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
\$5Price reduction!! on this superbly remodeled Craftsman beauty with old world details. 5BR/2.5BA, new kitchen/family room. Michelle Vasey x359

ORINDA \$699,000
32 SOUTHWOOD DR. (Open 2-4)
Charming 3BR/2BA brown shingle in serene & private setting, close to shops & restaurants. Kit/fam rm, formal dining, decks & hot tub. Sandi Klemmer x314

Open Sunday

BERKELEY \$639,000
2222 BLAKE ST. (Open 2-4:30)
Very charming 3BR/1BA 2-story Victorian w/1BR/1BA rear brown shingle cottage. French dr to deck & yard. Immaculate & beautiful. Nancy Noman x373

MONTCLAIR \$625,000
2150 DRAKE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Beautifully redone 4BR/2BA home on large lot. Family room, separate dining room, partial bay view, quiet street. Bonnie Hirsch x337



ROCKRIDGE \$569,000
5681 KEITH AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Wonderful 2-story Craftsman in the heart of Rockridge! Fmld DR w/box-beam ceilings, built-ins. Nice yard. 2-car garage. 4BR/1+BA. Vicki Woodhead x334

MONTCLAIR \$560,000
5720 MORAGA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Lovely 3BR/2BA w/den on large wooded lot. Large deck, 2-car garage & plenty of additional off-street parking. Kathleen Callahan x343

MONTCLAIR \$549,000
6616 PINE NEEDLE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Charming 4+BR/3BA on over 3/4 acre - secluded and quiet. Family room w/wet bar & fireplace, hot tub, decks & lots of storage. Dick Cohen x308

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$479,000
4256 39TH AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Gorgeous 2+BR/1+BA Mediterranean w/Bay views. Vaulted beamed ceilings, spacious formal rooms, adjoining home office & beautiful garden. Diane Earl McCan x352

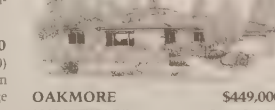
Open Sunday

BERKELEY \$495,000
2603 HILLEGASS AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Beautiful 2+BR, 1BA lower flat in historic 1898 Lindblom House, a 50% TIC interest in the entire building. Spectacular architectural details, separate studio/office, wonderful garden. Leslie Avant x341

EL CERRITO \$465,000
6630 GATTO AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Architect designed Japanese style jewel on artfully landscaped hillside w/ wraparound Bay views. 3BR/2BA, family room. Gini Erck x339

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$459,000
3658 MONTEREY BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
Spacious traditional 3BR/2BA, 1800+/sq. ft. Formal dining, hardwoods, French dr to patio & grdn. Great house. Diane Earl McCan x352

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$449,000
3300 WISCONSIN ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Spacious sun filled 3BR/2BA w/large family room. Beautiful tiered rear yard w/fruit trees. Diane Earl McCan x352



OAKMORE \$449,000
2303 TIFFIN RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Darling all level 3BR/2BA home, recently renovated with style. Wonderful great room! Level enclosed yard. Sally Morrison x313

PIEDMONT AVE. \$399,000
642 EL DORADO AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Stately 4+BR 1906 Dutch Colonial home awaits your finishing touches. Developable attic, large level yard & great location. Jeffrey Himmel x307

OAKLAND \$379,000
7967 HILLMONT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
Lovely 3BR/2BA traditional w/fabulous SF & GG views from spacious redwood deck w/sunken hot tub. Candy Benny x328

Open Sunday

SAN LEANDRO \$339,900
1803 BANCROFT AVE. (Open 1-4)
Sunny, charming & updated 3BR/1BA home built in 1948. New paint, carpet linoleum & more. Approx. 1361 sq. ft. Michelle Miller x335

LAUREL \$299,500
3057 MAPLE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
Spacious 3BR/2BA bungalow w/family room. Large eat-in kitchen, formal dining & great storage space. Level patio & garden. Diane Earl McCan x352

LAUREL \$295,000
2434 DAMUTH ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! 2-story 3BR/1BA fixer with large yard. Fine original details, new carpet & paint. Potential! Cindy Ruttan x364

By Appointment

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$2,750,000
Magnificent new custom built Mediterranean villa. Designed by architect Peter David Gilbert. Total quality & exquisite beauty. 5100+/sq. ft. 5BR/4.5BA. Dee Knowland x318

PIEDMONT \$2,450,000
Classic Colonial on approx. one-third acre. 5BR/3+BA, stunning kitchen; large family rm opens to lovely grounds/play area. Exceptional Georgia Cornell x325

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,250,000
Stunning 1 year old contemporary w/4BR/4.5BA. Unique design, great light. Master suite w/fireplace, lush canyon & bay views. Dee Knowland x318

MONTCLAIR \$889,000
Spacious 6 yr old contemporary w/marble floors, oversized kitchen/family rm, 4BR suites/4+BA, 3 fireplaces & breathtaking canyon views. Jeffrey Himmel x307

CLAREMONT HILLS \$795,000
LOT w/fantastic panoramic SF & bay views. Smashing \$100K+ plans included. Dee Knowland x318

CLAREMONT HILLS LOT \$750,000
SF & Bay view lot framed by large greenbelt canyon. Private road serves 4 luxury homes. Soils report, survey & architectural blueprints included. David Ichikawa x331

MONTCLAIR \$550,000
5BR/3BA + rumpus. Random-plank hardwood flrs. Wraparound deck. Lots of windows. Tree views. Nancy Chew x342

ALAMEDA \$415,000
Sunny Italianate Victorian beautifully maintained & updated. New kitchen, large sunny garden, hardwood floors, full basement. 3+BR/2BA. Jack McPhail x300

OAKLAND \$295,000
New price! 2BR/1BA bungalow nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac adjacent to 80 acres of open space. Remodeled kitchen, hardwood flrs, approx. 8900 sq. yard. Candy Benny x328

To contact the real estate editor,
call 510-748-1655 or e-mail
devanosky@cctimes.com

The GRUBB Co.



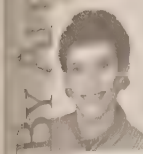
331 Vernon Street, Oakland
Classic split-level Mediterranean with random plank floors in the spacious living room and formal dining room. Three bedrooms, two baths and level garden.

Offered at \$449,000



3263 Madeline St., Laurel
Lovely Laurel bungalow with three bedrooms, two baths, sunny kitchen and cozy family room with sliding doors to deck and garden.

Offered at \$349,000



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Crocker Highlands

Offered at ~~\$649,000~~
\$599,000

Elegance, Grace & Charm...

This 3++ bedroom, 2.5 bath Crocker traditional boasts elegant and gracious rooms that are perfect for entertaining on any occasion. The setting is private and quiet with only one adjoining neighbor on Carlston. Enjoy your coffee or tea, or a romantic dinner for two on one of two sunny balconies. The finished, full basement is spacious and awaits your creative touch. The interior has been freshly painted. The refinished hardwoods and original wood details add charm throughout. And of course... You are close to the shops and restaurants of Lakeshore.



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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

BY APPOINTMENT

1845 NORTHWOOD CT. \$1,195,000
This incredible new home - w/its intelligent design, state-of-the-art amenities & impeccable finish work will exceed your greatest expectations. Oversized rooms, a knockout kitchen, sumptuous master bdrm ste, wonderful home office/media rm/guest suite & a marvelous wine cellar & tasting rm. Top it off with gorgeous views & you get the "The Best of the Best".
Mary Neuberger
530-4148 x251 or 530-4148

7 LA SALLE AVENUE, \$925,000
PIEDMONT
Exceptional home with 4BD/3BA, formal dining room, breakfast area, fam rm, large rumpus rm, and a newly remodeled gourmet kitchen. Two-car garage with interior access and huge deck for entertaining.
Chris Christensen
531-7000 x242

6677 SOBRANTE RD. \$875,000
Time-tested traditional design concepts, robust structural specifications, & high tech features combine to make this a must-see new home. Great Sobrante rd. location combines greenbelt beauty and quiet with easy access to Montclair Village! 3+BD/3 BA. Office, luxe kitchen.
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos
531-7000 x248 or 339-9780

NEW CONSTRUCTION \$879,000
MONTCLAIR
Located on quiet cul-de-sac across from Skyline Gate/Redwood Park trails. 4BD/3BA, formal dining & living rooms. Master suite with 2 closets. Fireplace, large bath.
David Hennigan
531-7000 x229 or 601-9540

NEW CONSTRUCTION \$749,000
MONTCLAIR
Great value on this quality home. Quiet location of several newer homes. Quiet location of several newer homes. Three mstr suites. Cooks kitchen with cherry cabinets, Viking appliances.
David Hennigan
531-7000 x229 or 601-9540

800 CALMAR AVENUE \$525,000
Delight in the rich elegance of the wood paneling, beam ceilings, and architectural details throughout the enclosed living, sitting, DR & entry sun porch. Traditional kit, 3 BDs, one & a half BA. Lvl yd.
Stan Hammond
531-7000 x246

6475 VALLEY VIEW ROAD \$469,000
Admirable & affordable in Montclair! Spacious, sunny contemporary. Three bedrooms, two baths and a set-apart office or playroom. Two decks for outdoor living and level play space.
Stan Hammond
531-7000 x246

4175 EASTLAKE \$455,000
Fabulous bay views from this Redwood Hts. traditional with a deco flair. 3BD/2BA, clean as a whistle, large sun-drenched LR w/fireplace, hardwood.
Katie Meadow
531-7000 x288

14 WYMAN PLACE \$379,000
Maxwell Park Tudor w/loads of charm, 4BD/2BA on cul-de-sac, tastefully remod. Kitchen & baths, refinished hwd flrs & new carpets, large yard w/fruit trees.
Carol Robbiano
531-7000 x292

1927 12th AVENUE \$315,000
Must see this charming 1800s Victorian. Original charm/updated systems. Master bedroom in turret. Oversized level fenced yard. Potential for extra unit.
Claire Svitek
531-7000 x274

5464 EL CAMILE AVENUE \$275,000
Be home by Thanksgiving! Classic 20's bungalow. Two bedrooms plus office. Updated eat-in kitchen and bath. Hardwood floors and fireplace. Private easy-care yard.
Joy Bryden
531-7000 x218

151 LAKESIDE DRIVE #108 \$225,000
1/1 Condo. Commute to S.F.? This is for you! Near S.F. ferry, BART, bus & fwys. Marble fireplace in LR new carpet & paint, across the street from Lake Merritt, great view.
Patsy Buhler
531-7000 x238

3471 WYMAN STREET \$219,000
Maxwell Pk - exceptionally private 2bd w/ large level yard, 2 bonus rooms-great for artist, music studio, or office, large eat-in kitchen, has great potential! Needs foundation work.
Kate Phillips
531-7000 x228 or 436-4100

FRUITVALE DISTRICT \$1,150,000
23 Units, many upgrades. Cash flow at COE on low rents. Upside!
Anne Bruff 531-7006 x283

MIXED USE \$895,000
Near Children's hospital, four traditional apartments, three commercial used as live/work.
Anne Bruff 531-7006 x283

DELIGHTFUL LIGHT-FILLED BUNGALOW \$279,000
Zoned commercial! 2+BD, one updated bath. Gleaming hardwood floors, new carpet, new paint, nice backyard, great garage with separate shop space. Plus room makes perfect office.
Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251

SIMPLY STUNNING INSIDE \$275,000
Lovingly owner-remodeled with super kitchen and bath, gleaming Pergo floors, open floor plan, two bedrooms, large yard with dog run.
Joy Bryden 531-7000 x218

NORTH OAKLAND \$269,000
Victorian duplex. Emeryville border, value added opportunity.
Anne Bruff 531-7006 x283

360 VERNON STREET #110 \$179,000
1/1 Motivated seller. Great bright and light filled unit, marble entry & kitchen floor, and pleasant tree view.
Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

DEVELOP OPPORTUNITY IN MONTCLAIR! \$169,000
Downslope lot with soils report, survey & underground utilities in place. Neighboring homes selling for \$900K & up. Lots of ongoing new construction in area. Buyer to pay EBMUD front footage charge at time of hookup.
Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251

GREAT LOT \$109,000
Level lot in great neighborhood. Zoned for multi-family or commercial building. Call listing agent for more information.
Michael Childress 531-7000 x215

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND 531-7000

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Laurel District

Open Sun. 2-4:30



2434 Damuth Street, Oakland

This delightful 1910 3+ BR/1 BA two-story fixer is brimming with potential. Many fine original details include box-beamed ceiling in living room, built-in cabinet in dining room, hwd flrs, and multi-paned windows. Your chance to own on a good street in a good neighborhood.

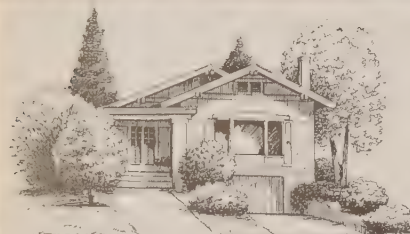
Offered at \$295,000

Cindy Ruttan

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Northbrae



Walk to Fat Apples! North Berkeley Opportunity!

The upper level features 3BD/2BA, a lovely large living room with unique multi-light windows and a fireplace flanked by classic built-ins. There's a big kitchen, a sunny formal dining room, a freestanding rear deck and lots more. The lower level is fun & funky! 1+BD/1BA, huge kitchen area, 2nd floor bedroom with balcony - all with separate entrance. Sunny, pleasant backyard, additional storage and more! Details at www.northbrae.com

Offered at \$449,000

Enchanting North Berkeley Cottage!

Walking distance to Live Oak Park and Shattuck Avenue shops and restaurants. 1 of 4 adorable detached cottages in this unique North Berkeley condominium. Hardwood floors, multi-light windows, cute remodeled kitchen and other delightful details. 1BD/1BA and a heavenly, private patch of garden to soothe even the most rattled nerves. Details at www.northbrae.com

Offered at \$359,000

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132 Beechwood Drive

By Appointment. 1 Elegant architecture and exceptional detailing accent this stately four year old home in Oakland's Claremont Pines. Situated on 1/5 acres, this 4BR/4BA, 4200 sq. ft. home captures SF & Bay views.

Offered at \$1,725,000



6349 Swainland Road,

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Dramatic interior spaces creates the ideal entertainment home. With 4000 sq. ft., 5BR/4BA, this home is accented by breathtaking S.E. Bay and Bridge views. A true Montclair masterpiece.

Offered at \$1,400,000



290 Sheridan Avenue

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Rockridge designer's showcase. Dramatic lighting in the limestone entry, living and dining room. Gourmet kitchen, den and wine cellar. 3BR/2.5BA. Deck & garden.

Offered at \$729,000

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2303 Tiffin Road, Oakland, CA 94602 • \$449,000

Darling all level home located in the popular Oakmore area, close to shopping & transportation. Renovated in trendy style with wonderful space for entertaining and relaxing. Level enclosed yard. Features: 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Living room with fireplace, Dining area, 2 car attached garage.



Sandi Klemmer

Senior Sales Associate
(510) 339-6460 x314

PACIFIC UNION

LAUREL DISTRICT

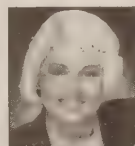
Open Sunday • October 21st • 2-4:30pm



3057 MAPLE AVENUE, OAKLAND

Lovingly maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath bungalow with family room. Large eat-in kitchen. Formal dining room. Hardwood floors. Great storage space. Level yard and patio. Detached garage. Don't miss this special home. Approx. 1500 sq. feet.

Offered at \$299,500

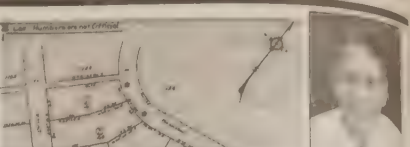


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New Listings

Offered at \$175,000.

Approximately 0.4 Acre, gently down slope lot with partial bay view in great Oakland hills neighborhood; Easy street access; Utilities at the site; Survey

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Oakland

\$159,000 1430 3rd St. Duplex! Open Sat. 10-4. Two bedroom units. Great south of prescott location. Needs lots of work. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$179,500 2871 Helen St. High basement Victorian! 3bd, 1ba, w/many original features. Rapidly developing neighborhood borders on Oakland. Much potential! Needs work. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$196,000 3W Embarcadero 227. Quaint super private unit on second floor with carport parking. One bedroom with double doors. Walk to Jack London waterfront. Next to channel "Z". Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$195,000 1317 Center St. Open Sat. 2-4. Large Victorian! Contractors special! 3bd, 2ba, family room, formal dining room, finished basement+room. Great location! Kathy 510-814-4706

\$225,000 830 Pine St. Perfect for live/work! Approx. 1400 sq. ft. 14' ceiling, skylites, & roll up door. Needs work! Good location. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$358,000 8048 Greenly Dr. Single level 2 bd, 1ba bungalow! Large eat in kitchen and family room. Large deck and in-ground pool in private yard. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

\$425,000 4511 Virginia Ave. View city light! Single level 3bd, 2ba, bungalow w/hardwood floors, updated kitchen & baths, new plumbing & electrical. Formal dining, basement, & workshop. Janice 510-814-4846

\$625,000 7975 Phaeon Dr. Beautiful single level 4 bed home. Family room, built in grill, dog house, and stone counters. Donnaluci 510-814-4826

Montclair

\$499,000 161 Bearfoot Dr. Country cabin near hills! Hardwood floors, 3bd, 2ba, 1000 sq. ft. 510-814-4826

San Leandro

\$295,000 14161 Sequoia Dr. Updated 3bd, 2ba, 1000 sq. ft. carport, 1 car garage. 510-814-4826

\$319,500 42 Dutton Ave. C. upgraded single level 2 bd bungalow. New w/hardwood floor, roof, water heater, dryer and garage. New fences. Tom 510-81-4826

Hayward

\$299,900 20 Treble Dr. Charm-large 3+bd, 2ba. Remodeled kitchen, 1000 sq. ft. w/wood floors, master suite. Attached 510-814-4826

Orinda

\$99,000 El Tirol, Rawland - Int'l plan for a 3bd, 2ba home have been preliminary designed. Call for details. 510-814-4826

Richmond

\$253,000 3768 Northridge Dr. Bright and sunny 3 bd, 2.5 ba. 510-814-4826

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EL CERRITO

VIEW GALORE! \$385,000
2+BR 1.5 BA almost 1500 sq. ft., deck and patios, fireplace, stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors thru-out, 2 car detached garage. #01034249 Sian Yap 510-662-8467

GREAT AREA NEAR PLAZA \$439,900
Large house over 2100 sq. ft., 4BR 2BA, corner lot, 2 car attached garage, fireplace, new exterior paint with city lights views! #01030755 Michele Manzone 510-662-9545

PANORAMIC BAY VIEWS! \$625,000
Terrific secluded street. This wonderful brown shingle boasts 4BR 3.5 BA & is almost 2700 sq. ft., large master suite, hardwood floors, kitchen w/ breakfast nook, gorgeous setting, downstairs could be used as possible in-law. #01033197 Michele Manzone 510-662-8545

RICHMOND VIEW

PARTY HOUSE IN THE TREES \$354,988
5825 Ralston Ave. (Open Sun 1-4) 3BR 2BA Close to Alvarado/ Wildcat Canyon Park #01020985
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MARINA BAY LUXURY LIVING \$484,988
3 BR 3 BA 74 Harbor View Dr. (Open Sun 1-4). Stroll the water front, watch for sunsets. Large immaculate home with loads of upgrades. #01036257
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BERKELEY

THOUSAND OAKS AREA /THIS HOUSE HAS IT ALL \$549,000
943 Fresno Ave. (Open Sun 1-5) Great location beautiful woodwork, hardwood floors, new kitchen, plumbing, electrical heating & paint. Close to Solano! 3BR 1BA, formal dining room w/ built-ins, and a detached garage. Jamie Lake 510-662-8497

KENSINGTON

CUSTOM 1948 BROWN SHINGLE \$699,000
5+ BR 3 BA over 2500 Sq.Ft., 4 car att & det. garage, 2 fireplaces, in-law potential central heating lot over quarter acre. #01035973 Kevin Tannahill 510-524-1112

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New Listing!

1422 Holly, Berkeley \$429,000

Open Sun 10/21 2-4:30pm



New Price!

733 Carlston, Oakland \$599,000

Open Sun 10/21 2-4pm



New Price!

1259 Holman, Oakland \$575,000

Open Sun 10/21 2-4:30pm

Premier Home

1417 Grizzly Peak, Berkeley



Open Sun 10/21 & 10/28, 2-4:30 pm
Dramatic 4 /3 renovation blends high-tech sophistication with timeless elegance. Gourmet kitchen area opening to back yard & filtered views amid a Sylvan setting. \$895,000

For a private showing, call
Sara Garabedian
510.280.2105

SUNDAY OPEN HOMES, 10/21

New Listing! 1048 55th Street, Oakland \$239,000 Open 2-5pm
2708 Shane, Richmond 3/2 \$279,000 Open 1-4 pm
2618 Downer, Richmond 1/1 \$199,900 Open 2-4pm

By Appointment:

New Price! 2818 Cherry, Berk Duplex \$549,000
New Res. Inc! Milvia, Berk 8 Units \$975,000



New Listing!

8509 Maiden Lane, El Cerrito \$749,900

Open Sun 10/21 2-4pm



New Listing!

1159 Santa Fe, Albany \$450,000

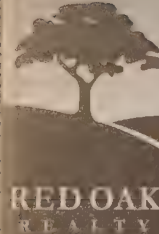
Open Sun 10/21 2-4pm



New Price!

1811 Esmond, Richmond \$239,500

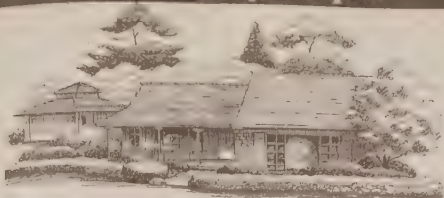
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Situated on an estate-sized lot of nearly 3/4 acre, this rare property offers the ultimate in privacy. The house has over 3,000 square feet of spacious level living just waiting for you to create your dream home from the home at www.pnuweb.com/vickierobinson.

Offered at \$1,295,000

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EXCEPTIONAL PIEDMONT HOME
OPEN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2-5 PM

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REALTORS



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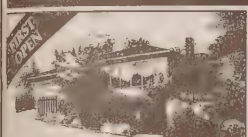
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31 Rincon Road, Kensington.....\$495,000
Gorgeous, 2BR/2BA w/dream kitchen. Open floor plan w/ master bedroom, gorgeous garden w/ patio & fruit trees. 2-4-30 Claudia Bowman



25 Shawnee Court.....\$799,000
Hillcrest Highlands. Wrapped in glass! Handsome 4+BR/3BA almost level Contemporary on approx. 1/3 acre of beautifully landscaped grounds. 2-5 Fritz Hochtelner

FIRST OPEN

45 Schooner Hill.....\$669,000
Hill Highlands. 3BR/3BA. Views, gourmet kitchen w/ marble slab counters & cherry cabinets, HWF, formal living & dining, sophisticated marble baths 2-4-30 Dell Orr

7568 Mountain Blvd. #10.....\$225,000
Leona Heights. Townhome living & sophistication, updated thruout 2BR/1BA, 1-car garage w/interior access. Easy Hwy. access. 2-4-30 Ellen Lancaster

OPEN SUNDAY

3221 Midvale.....\$360,000
Lurel. Gorgeous Bungalow. 2BR/1BA w/elegant dining room, private back yard, elegantly remodeled w/whispering gourmet kitchen. 1-5. Mahnaz Judson

330 Park View Terrace #406.....\$229,000
Adams Point. Spacious top floor condo in highly desirable building. New carpet & paint, FP, high ceilings, washer & dryer. 2-5. Carolyn Devol

2201 Mastlands.....\$825,000
Piedmont Pines. Sense of privacy! Dramatic/sunny w/temperary Bay & 2-br oge view, soaring ceilings, HWF, 2FP, FDR, family room, 3BR/3.5BA, 2-car garage. 2-4-30 Ruby Ng

6574 Shepherd Canyon.....\$669,000
Montclair Victorian. 2BR/1BA w/Jacuzzi. Amazing paint in & out. Yard w/patio, decks & hot tub. 2-4-30 Judy Rankankan

3100 Redwood.....\$849,000
Gorgeous 2BR/1.5BA situated on large lot w/ spectacular view. Pool, guest house. 2-5. Donna Conroy

5845 Estates Dr.....\$599,000
Pedmont side of Montclair. 4+BR/2+BA, FDR & Fam. room w/FP, HWF, remodel. kitchen, fabulous outdoor living. 2-5. Adele Wong

39 Agnes Street.....\$699,000
3+BR 3BA updated Rockridge (Upper) home. Gorgeous traditional charm & style. 2-4-30 Michael Thompson

7425 Skyline Blvd.....\$459,000
Montclair Victorian. 2BR/1BA w/Jacuzzi. Amazing openness & details. HWF. 2-5. Adele M. Wong

3350 Oakland Ave., Piedmont.....\$685,000
Gorgeous English Tudor w/gleaming HWF, vaulted ceilings & family room off kitchen. 4BR/2BA. 2-5. George Karsant

4289 Maple Avenue.....\$399,000
Lincoln Hts. 2BR/2BA, 2FP, wonderful deck, garage w/studio, wooded setting. 2-4-30 Rachel Baller

BY APPOINTMENT

Oakland Highlands.....\$699,000
Gorgeous w/ remodeled Ranch on large lot, green w/ views of rolling hills, 3+BR/2BA, office, 2-car garage. Fritz Hochtelner

Concord.....\$375,000
Walnut Creek border. Lovely 3BR/2BA level home. Large updated kitchen w/nook, opens to family room w/FP. Sunken living room & FDR. Beautiful private yard w/lawn. Victor Fierro

Montclair.....\$695,000
3BR/3BA, family room, HWF, dining room, 2FP, 2-car garage. Victor Fierro

Berkeley duplex.....\$369,000
Charming centrally located 2BR/1BA w/laundry, 1BR/1BA w/FP, close to BART, Berk Bowl, shops & more. Bonnie Ross & Jeffrey Needleman

Montclair.....\$669,000
3BR/3BA w/huge plus room & 2nd floor rm. combo, 2 FP, Sharp! Terry Kulka

North Oakland.....\$320,000
Cozy Craftsman cottage. 2BR/1BA, built-ins, FP, eat-in kitchen. Elena Stone

Emeryville Loft.....\$595,000
w/ walk out to this top floor corner unit w/ views & hardwood floors. 2 REAL BR/2BA Live/work loft w/ everything. Dell Orr

Oakland.....\$299,000
Darling 3BR/1BA, plus room, HWF & FP, eat-in kitchen, large grassy fenced yard, multi-use workshop. Joan Afford

Maraga.....\$510,000
Gorgeous 3BR/2.5BA townhome. Great floorplan, 2-car garage, upgraded. Elena Stone

Oakland.....\$239,000
2+BR/1BA, FP in living room, FDR, family room, eat-in kitchen. Phyllis Wherry

Larwin Heights.....\$449,000
3BR/2BA home, two plus rooms, HWF, 2-car garage. Rachel Baller

Emeryville.....\$205,000
Cute 2BR/1BA, hardwood floor, roomy kitchen, detached garage & storage shed. Reva Tolbert



1029 Rincon.....\$1,200,000
Oakland (Claremont). New construction w/exceptional attention to detail. 2BR/2BA, 2-car garage, hardwood floors & air. Japan Afford



124 Sheridan Road.....\$699,000
Rockridge (Upper) Contemporary. 4+BR/3BA, open floor plan, top quality finishes. Nancy Dickey



Oakland.....\$2,195,000
4 bridge view from elegant 12 room Victorian. 4BR/3BA, 2-car garage, 2nd floor Spanish style. 2nd floor Spanish style kitchen, luxurious master and bath, family room, study, wine cellar, 2nd floor garden, 2nd floor, 2nd floor, 2nd floor. Marienthal 510-486-1495



Highest Quality Construction.....\$1,150,000
Spectacular property w/classic basic floorplan. 4BR/2.5BA. Overlooks lush green hills. 4 BR/2.5BA, 2-car garage, 2nd floor, 2nd floor, 2nd floor. Space

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A BERKELEY BEAUTY.....\$1,250,000
Close to Gourmet Ghetto, this exceptional 1920's home was lovingly restored & remodeled in 1998. 5BR/3BA, permitted office, FDR. Large, beautifully landscaped lot. Barbara & Kim Marienthal 510-486-1495



A FAVORITE NEIGHBORHOOD.....\$776,000
Gorgeous English Country Cottage w/stunning architectural details. Top drawer remodeling in kitchen & bath. Yard has rare & lovely flora plus garden pavilion for fun & fitness. Jeanne McHugh 510-486-1495

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

20 Deep Water, Richmond.....\$388,500
2BR/2.5BA, move-in condition! Pat Brennan

1024 Masonic Ave., Albany.....\$459,000
Gorgeous Mediterr., 2BR/1BA + office, yard. Diana Kay

2635 Etna St., Berkeley.....\$895,000
4BR/2BA + cottage, Elmwood Bm. Shingle. Kim/Barbara Marienthal

662 Poirier St., Oakland.....\$349,000
Craftsman details, fm. DR, in-law downstairs. Heidi & Jerry Long

616 Evelyn Ave., Albany.....\$360,000
1+BR/2BA & office, Craftsman, jewel, hwd. flrs., Frml. DR. Nadine Oci

1749 Sonoma Ave., Berkeley.....\$776,000
3+BR/1+BA, English Country Cottage w/stunning detail. Nancy Reichert

25 Forest Ln., Berkeley.....\$725,000
3BR/2BA, French country home. Alice Wong-Roth

780 21st St., Richmond.....\$255,000
3BR/2BA, one level, lg. FR, close to conveniences. Josh Whitmer

BY APPOINTMENT

ELEGANT 20'S HOME.....\$648,000
Dream bkld. for children, gardens or entertaining. 3BR/3BA. Classic 20's wood details, must see interior. walk to shops

WAITING FOR YOUR TLC.....\$199,000
2BR/1BA.

MONTCLAIR MEDITERRANEAN.....\$799,000
Sweeping Bay views of SF, GG & Marin. 3BR/2.5BA, dramatic high ceilings, parquet floors, sunny spa rm., fantastic MBR w/marble bath.

SWEET CRAFTSMAN BUNGALOW.....\$349,000
Craftsman details. FDR, family rm., front & bkld., kit remodeled, in-law unit downstairs.

BRIGHT MARINA CONTEMPORARY.....\$388,500
Move in w/new paint & carpets. 2BR/2.5BA. Enjoy fenced yd., trails, parks. 2-car gar., formal living & dining, den/loft.

GLENVIEW CRAFTSMAN.....\$459,000
Gorgeous shingled 3BR/1BA, sun-filled remodeled kit, lg FDR, new dec. hwd. flrs., idiosync. backyard, artfully painted in & out, move-in cond. Warm, inviting home.

ELMWOOD BROWN SHINGLE.....\$895,000
4BR/2.5BA + 2 story cottage, wonderful yard.

A FAVORITE NEIGHBORHOOD.....\$776,000
Gorgeous English Country Cottage w/stunning architectural details. Top drawer remodeling in kitchen & bath. Yard has rare & lovely flora plus garden pavilion for fun & fitness.

SOPHISTICATED COTTAGE.....\$360,000
Craftsman jewel in heart of Albany. Gorgeous kitchen, hwd. flrs., 1BR + office. Formal dining rm. Beautiful garden setting. Steps from Solano Av., movies & eateries.

COZY STUCCO BUNGALOW!.....\$275,000
Amazing Albany price! This 2BR/1BA home features hardwood floors, fresh paint & carpet. French doors & deck lead to backyard. Detached garage. Photos @ ImakeYourMove.com

BERKELEY HILLS CLASSIC.....\$725,000
3BR/2BA enchanting old world detail w/modern kitchen & mstr. bath, formal LR & DR, fireplace, att'd gar, patio, terraced garden.

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510-834-0020	2-4	\$364,000	4053 Harlan	1b/1	Sun 2-4	\$358,000
			Prudential CA, Candice Economides, 510-845-0200			
510-814-4772 Harbor Bay Realty	2-4	\$365,000	1500 Park #120	1bd/1ba/Sun	2-4:30	\$329,000
			Prudential, www.davidtolora.com, 510-338-9290			

510-339-0400	4 + 3 - Sun 2-4:30	\$899.00	Montclair Better Homes, Monica Forster, 510-339-0400
124 Sheridan (Upper Rockledge)	Caldwell Banker, Nancy Dickey,		864 Mandana Blvd. 2 - bd/2ba 2-4:30
510-339-4706			Crocker Highlands Open Sun Bana Cohen, 510-339-8900 1248, Century 21 H

\$4,000	510-339-4700	
\$529,000	151 Lakeside Dr (Lake Merritt) Wells & Bennett, Patsy Buhler, 510-531-7000	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4:30 \$225,000
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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1723 S Villa Way Prudential, John Wesley.	2bd 1.5ba	Sun 1-4	\$250,000

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124 Sheridan (Upper Rockledge)	Caldwell Banker, Nancy Dickey,		864 Mandana Blvd. 2 - bd/2ba 2-4:30
510-339-4706			Crocker Highlands Open Sun Bana Cohen, 510-339-8900 1248, Century 21 H

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\$529,000	151 Lakeside Dr (Lake Merritt) Wells & Bennett, Patsy Buhler, 510-531-7000	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4:30 \$225,000
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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
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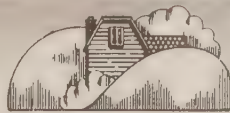
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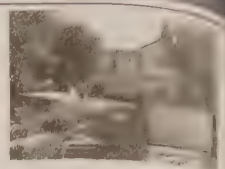
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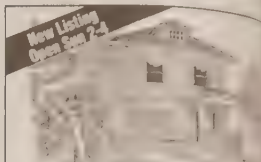
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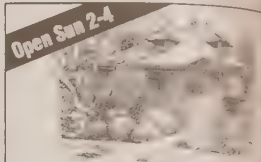
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HILLS FIRESTORM

T E N Y E A R S L A T E R

San Francisco Bay Area Newspapers • J V P M • Friday, October 19, 2001 • Section C

Lest we forget Memorials honor those who survived, and those who didn't [C4]
Prevention Taking precautions so such an event will not happen again [C11]

Oct. 20, 1991: Hills erupt in a storm of fire



■ The fateful October weekend saw 25 deaths, destruction and dismay, and a much-loved area's vulnerabilities laid bare

By Brian Anderson
STAFF WRITER

The blaze was out. At least by all appearances, firefighters said then, the flames they found on a hot October Saturday in the tinder-dry Oakland hills had been snuffed.

Crews mopping up returned to their stations. Nervous residents stowed garden hoses and put away their fears.

But howling out of Contra Costa were the heated gusts of the Diablo winds, the devil's breath that revived the smoldering ash, unleashing a deadly firestorm.

"It spread so quickly that within literally hours it had darkened the sky," former Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris recalled. "It was almost like a nightmare."

Nearly a decade has passed since 25 people lost their lives and thousands lost their homes in an inferno that scarred the hills of Oakland and Berkeley.

But changes have come to Oakland, from the retrofit of thousands of fire hydrants to the undergrounding of power lines and pictures from a heat-seeking helicopter, making fire officials breathe a bit easier when the Diablo winds begin to blow.

The spark

Jabbed into a shallow grave where Tunnel Road bends upward at Buckingham Boulevard, a blackened tree stump remains, an unheralded memorial of the fire's beginnings.

A construction-site spark. A homeless camp barbecue pit. Bins of burning debris. Initial speculation and investigation pointed to different causes. But to this day, none has gotten the official blame.

Amid the coyote brush and sage sucked dry by five years of drought, flames exploded into the 90-degree air Oct. 19, 1991. Eucalyptus, non-native trees that

See RISK, Page C12 See FIRE, Page C14

OAKLAND HILLS residents flee their burning home in the Lake Temescal area during the Oct. 20, 1991, Oakland/Berkeley Hills Firestorm.

Homeowners' waning interest adds to fire risk

Potential for fire remains, but residents' participation in preparedness programs seems to be on the decline

By Clare Curley
STAFF WRITER

More and more, fire departments are expected to work with individuals to ensure safety in the

hills so that the disaster that occurred in 1991 is never repeated.

One major change recently has been the creation of various vegetation control programs, often a part of larger disaster training programs.

The likelihood of another fire has already been cut in half through education and enforcement, said Berkeley's Assistant Fire Chief, David Orth.

Some regulations ensure increased wildfire prevention. For example, where the previous requirement had been 10 feet of controlled vegetation around homes, the minimum has been increased to between 30 and 100 feet.

On the part of fire departments, fire abatement programs include annual inspections of homes in the hills.

But participation in pre-

paredness programs has waned in some areas. Over time, the hard part hasn't been getting local interest but maintaining it.

"Ten years later it's hard to keep that memory going," Orth said.

The potential is still there, and efforts to thwart another disaster will depend on the ongoing interest of homeowners.

Much of this starts with preparedness programs, offered

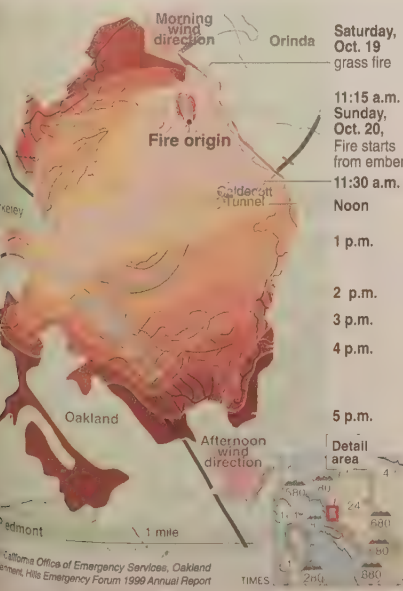
through most Bay Area fire departments. After 1991 there was extra emphasis on "all hazards" preparedness programs, that simultaneously handle risk management for earthquakes, storms, fires and other emergencies.

Some fire prevention programs now focus on reducing flammable vegetation in the hills,

How quickly the fire spread

On Oct. 19, 1991, a grass fire in the Oakland hills was put out. Hoses were left in place, and the area was watched during the night. The next morning, according to eyewitness accounts, a single ember blew from the bushes into a tree. The resulting fire was quickly out of control.

Fire statistics	
Deaths	25
Injuries	150
Houses destroyed	2,843
Apartments destroyed	433
Dwellings destroyed	3,276
Acres burned	1,520
Fire perimeter	5.25 miles
Dollar loss	\$1.537 billion



Richmond firefighters answer the call

■ With only their turnout gear, these eight firemen battled the blaze with brooms, shovels ... and courage

By Lisa Coffey Mahoney
STAFF WRITER

Hero: one that shows great courage. As they drove up Broadway Terrace, past the Claremont Country Club golf course, on the afternoon of Oct. 20, 1991, a group of Richmond firefighters fell silent.

The morning's sunny sky had been darkened by smoke, and flames danced on the hillside in front of them.

"It looked more like 9 p.m.," said Luchan Baker, 50, now a captain with the Richmond Fire Department.

"When we were first driving in, we heard sounds like gunfire. Actually, it was pine cones blowing up," said James Ratelle, 57, an engineer.

Hours earlier, the firefighters — Baker, Ratelle, Merlin Turner, Russell Murrey, Nicholas Jackalone, Richard Abercrombie, Steve Chandler and Capt. Angel Bobo — had persuaded a Richmond battalion chief to allow them respond to the Oakland/Berkeley hills fire.

"We're just real motivated guys that wanted to go out and help if we could," said



A GROUP OF RICHMOND firefighters turned out to be true heroes when they joined in to battle the hills blaze. Among the eight heroic firefighters were, left to right, Capt. Luchan Baker, Capt. Merlin Turner and Firefighter Russell Murrey.

Turner, 44. But there was one rather big hitch. The firefighters weren't allowed to take one of the department's fire engines or trucks, which means they did not have access to ba-

sic firefighting equipment, including breathing apparatus.

The firefighters' superiors were concerned

See HEROES, Page C13

Lives were changed forever on Oct. 20

By Martin Snapp
CORRESPONDENT

The worst we know all too well: 25 dead, thousands burned out of their homes, neighbor-

hoods destroyed.

But it was also a time when the people of the East Bay demonstrated what courage, generosity and resilience human

beings are capable of when the chips are down. Here are some of the people whose

See SURVIVORS, Page C13

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HAROLD ADLER/CONTRIBUTED



Grand View is grand again

THE SCENE at Grand View and Hiller in the Oakland hills was not so grand in the aftermath of the 1991 fire. But through the dedication, perseverance and determination of the area residents, the neighborhood, along with many other neighborhoods in the region, were rebuilt. The spirit proved what residents say to be true — they were not victims of the Oakland/Berkeley Hills Firestorm ... they are fire survivors.

Indian Summer will never be the same after Oct. 20, 1991

By Chris Treadway
NEWS EDITOR

Hindsight is 20-20, but looking back from the vantage point of 10 years later offers as many questions as it does insights about the 1991 Oakland-Berkeley hills fire.

The initial aftermath looked as if a huge bomb had been dropped on the area, leveling most everything, but miraculously sparing some structures.

For those who were here, Indian Summer will never be the same after Oct. 20, 1991. Indian Summer, when summer heat persists while fall winds kick into high gear, changed 10 years ago.

There had been fires in the past, of course. Those were nature's warnings. Because they were contained they also fostered a false sense of security. It could be argued, in hindsight, that if the fire didn't happen in 1991, it would happen in 1992 or sometime soon. Perhaps, but conditions in 1991 — from the direction of the wind, to the age and type of trees, to the size and dryness of vegetation on the hillsides — were perfect for a perfect disaster.

Indian Summer, always so welcome in the past, was the final ingredient for the disaster that ensued. All it took were the embers of a single small fire, supposedly contained the day before.

There may be no such thing as "earthquake weather," but "fire weather" definitely exists.

And in the minds of survivors of the 1991 firestorm it gets even more specific. Each year that the season arrives — a warm, dry day at the start of fall when the wind stirs everything around — can't help but bring a sense of foreboding triggered by memories of what happened in 1991.

In this issue we look at what happened that day and what has happened since; what has or hasn't changed since then; and what residents can do to keep it from happening again.

Memories fade, people become complacent or think it was just something that happened elsewhere and couldn't happen to them. If you live in the East Bay hills, don't kid yourself.

Whether you live in Oakland, Piedmont, Berkeley, El Cerrito or Kensington, the lessons of 1991 are crucial. On days when conditions are just right, the same situation could occur again.

Chris Treadway was the editor of the Montclairion from 1991-96. He is now the news editor for Hills Newspapers. Reach him at ctreadway@cctimes.com or call 510-243-3575.

There was no school that day — it was Sunday

■ Thankfully, schools were closed the day of the fire, and would remain closed for the week to follow

By B. Roscoe
STAFF WRITER

"I just remember it was a Sunday — a hot Sunday. And I couldn't believe what I was seeing on TV," said Joaquin Miller Principal Linda Lu, recalling Oct. 20, 1991.

Fortunately for principals like Lu and Iris Segal, principal at Kaiser Elementary in 1991, the infamous Oakland hills fire began on a Sunday. The children and staff they would otherwise have been responsible for were confronting the natural disaster with their families.

Most schools would remain closed for the following week. But when students, staff, and faculty returned to school, eight days after the callos flames swallowed homes indiscriminately, those institutions of education became the foundation of normalcy, the bedrock of security for many students whose families had been displaced and were struggling to regain a simple sense of routine.

There is no way to relate the experience from students' and administrators' perspective without remembering their first impressions or their exact location, or what they were doing at the time they first noticed the raging fire. These pieces of the event have become permanent mental fixtures for hills residents.

I remember

Segal was a new principal, with all of two months at Kaiser. That weekend a friend asked how her new job was going so far. Segal was effusive in her satisfaction with the new position. The friend, a pragmatist, cautioned Segal that once things settled in, it might not be as wonderful. Segal replied, "What could possibly go wrong?"

Debbie Gibson, a junior at College Preparatory School in Rockridge in 1991, recalled seeing a fire in the hills on Saturday, Oct. 19. She remembered thinking that she couldn't watch it because she had to study for a history test on the following Monday.

On Sunday, even as the hazard increased, she never believed she was in danger. "You could smell the smoke but it never got so close you could see the flames," she said in a recent interview. "I wasn't panicked by any means." Even as she was evacuating her home that Sunday one of her thoughts was "I have to study for the test."

Andy Dean, then dean of students at CPS, arrived at the school that Sunday after getting a call about the fire. He saw how close the flames were and thought, "Uh oh. There goes my



COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL'S Andy Dean and Stan Washburn played a key role in saving the school and neighboring homes.

job security and all that."

The school had a water hydrant on campus but not enough hoses. Dean, drama teacher Stan Washburn, three students who had been on campus with Washburn and one man "off the street," as Dean put it, fought the fires that kept starting at different locations on the campus and wet down the buildings.

The flames came as close as 30 feet from the rear of the gym that was just being built. Though Dean's truck was lost to the flames, they were able to save a couple of the neighbors' houses. "That was a pretty satisfying thing to do," said Dean.

For Vanessa Hunger, who was in fifth grade at Kaiser then, things happened very quickly. By the time Vanessa convinced her mother it was time to get out of the house, they had no time left to take any belongings with them. "I left barefoot. I didn't even have my shoes on. And I'm really glad I did," said Hunger recently.

First impressions

When Segal was finally able to make it back to the Kaiser campus a few days after the blaze, she said it was a shock to the senses.

"It was like a holocaust. Like a nuclear holocaust." There were just chimneys standing — or nothing at all — on foundations where homes surrounding the school used to be. "There was nothing left," she said, "not a leaf, not a tree. That was the landscape for quite some time."

"Nothing happened to the school," she said with amazement even now, a decade later. "The wind must have shifted," she reasoned. The school and a house next to it went untouched. Nothing else on that hill survived, Segal related.

Hunger, a student at the

school was equally in awe.

"It survived," she said. "It was in the middle of the whole thing, but it did not burn down."

Dean is thankful that CPS was spared. "It's a wooden-decks, wooden-building type of school," he said. "The fire was, indeed, right around the campus the whole time," said Dean, adding, "We were very lucky indeed." Gibson agreed. "The thing that got me, though, was that CPS was still there."

Back to school

In the aftermath, schools became the focal point for many families. "My school was my community at that point," said Gibson. By opening their doors

for community members to gather to exchange information or by simply creating a common place to grieve and to help schools, and more specifically faculty, staff, and principals, create a safe haven for students and their families as the building process began.

"Everyone who called wanted to help I said 'yes,'" Segal. She even received a call from a psychiatrist at Children's Hospital who offered to provide mental health services. In turn, opportunity provided the de-

See SCHOOLS, Page C1

EXTENDING OUR THANKS

Hills Newspapers gratefully acknowledges these individuals for their thoughtful contributions — photos, written testimony and memories — which helped make possible this special coverage of the Oakland/Berkeley hills fire anniversary.

- Harold Adler, photographer
- David L. Williams, retired agricultural consultant
- Patrick Chellew, paramedic supervisor
- Helene R. Foster, photographer
- Len Blau, photographer
- Walter Oulemutz
- Donald V. Pearman of PCI Research (fire investigations)
- Georgia Wright
- Blair, Kathy, Sarah and Katherine Jarrett
- Robert Solley
- Martha Killebrew
- Barbara Robben, artist
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- JoAnn Adams
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- Tom Felts and Robin Mitchell, photographers
- Mark Rauzon, photographer and environmental consultant

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The longest day of their lives

Local public officials: How they were and what they were doing on the day the fire broke out

By Martin Snapp

For the public officials who have the responsibility of dealing with the crisis, the Great Fire of 1991 was the defining moment of their careers. There's where they were and they were doing on what would turn out to be the longest day of their lives.

Lamont Ewell, Oakland fire chief

Lamont Ewell had been Oakland's fire chief for only 13 days when he got his baptism of fire. He was handing out awards at a special Olympics competition the morning when the first news came in.

"I was hugging and congratulating all the young athletes, and my emergency pager went off," Ewell said. "I went outside to my car, and that's when I saw the column of smoke. As I saw it, I knew we were in trouble."

Like a general marching to the sound of drums, Ewell jumped into his car and started driving toward the smoke. By the time I got there, the fire was roaring down the canyon toward Parkwood Apartments. It was obvious that the emergency command center we'd set up was going to be overrun, he said.

"I turned to my assistant and said, 'This fire is going to be a long one,' and he said, 'We have 45 minutes. We barely had time to get out of there and set up a new emergency command center last night.'"

The first thing to do was get a handle on the extent of the conflagration. "We pulled out maps of the area and started studying them to check the wind conditions, to figure out which way the fire would go next," he says. "Our

"Does it look like it's headed for Berkeley?" he asked. Told it wasn't, he said "OK, if Oakland calls for help, send them whatever they ask for. Call me back if it gets any worse." And he jumped in his car and headed for Berkeley.

In the rush of events, nobody ever called him back. But it wasn't necessary because by the time he got on the freeway, just minutes later, "the sky was black with smoke, even in Alameda."

"It was the most frightening thing I've ever seen," says Cates. "The whole world was on fire, from horizon to horizon."

He headed for the Berkeley Police Station, where an emergency command structure had been set. After getting briefed, he ordered a mass evacuation from the fire area, including all homes east of College Avenue and the entire Cal campus.

"There were still some old-timers in the department who remembered the 1923 fire," he says. "And we knew from the 1923 experience that the fire could literally march all the way to the Bay."

And he's sure it would have happened again, but for the grace of God. "There's no doubt about it. If the wind hadn't changed, we would have lost the whole city. I was standing next to Mike Brown, the city manager, and he asked me if we had enough men to fight the fire. I told him, 'Mike, we could have 5,000 more men on this line, but it won't make a difference if the wind doesn't shift soon.'"

And could it happen again? "Not only can it happen, I guarantee that it will happen again," says Cates. "Most of the changes we made after the fire have been abandoned, from the 75,000-gallon cisterns in the hills to the Vegetation Management Program. It's not a question of 'if,' it's a question of 'when.'"

"More people will suffer, and what's heartbreaking is that it's all so preventable. But there's just no political will. People have short memories."



Loni Hancock, mayor of Berkeley

"I was in Yosemite, attending an urban planning conference, along with most of the Berkeley City Council," recalls Loni Hancock, who was mayor of Berkeley. "The conference had just ended, and I was going to take another day there to relax, read, and try to rest. So here I was on my porch at the Yosemite Lodge when there was a knock on the door. A hand stuck in with a note that read, 'Come home at once! Berkeley is burning down!'"

The note was from City Councilwoman Carla Woodworth, who had left Yosemite earlier that morning and was driving back to Berkeley when she heard the news on the radio. She pulled over at the first pay phone and called the Yosemite Lodge to get word to the mayor.

"I jumped in my car and drove and drove and drove," says Hancock. "I'm embarrassed to tell you how fast, but I made it back to Berkeley in record time."

As soon as she arrived, she huddled with City Manager Mike Brown, Fire Chief Gary Cates and Oakland Mayor Elihu Harris to coordinate the response. And the days and weeks that followed were, if anything, even more harrowing.

"If you'll recall, we had rains right after the fire," she says. "We had a difficult time trying to stabilize the slope on the hills. We were afraid that the homes that survived the fire would be swept away by mud slides. Our other big job was working with FEMA to make sure the victims got relief as soon as possible."

Hancock thinks many lessons were learned from the fire, the most important being the need for inter-city cooperation.

"Would you believe that Berkeley and Oakland had fire hoses with different diameters?" she asks incredulously. "We couldn't even hook up to each other's fire hydrants! That's the first thing we changed after the fire."

"There were also some jurisdictional problems that cropped up during the fire, with firefighters in one city not sure whether they had the authority to respond to a fire in another city. So afterward, we signed a historic agreement between Berkeley and Oakland in which we agreed to put out each other's fires. We also set up the Hills Emergency Forum, to give citizens a voice in future fire prevention plans."

"So we've learned the lessons. And we've put a lot of what we've learned into practice. What we haven't done is provide adequate funding. I'm especially distressed about the lack of funds for the Vegetation Management Program. But despite that, we're light years ahead of where we were 10 years ago."

Michael Brown, Berkeley city manager

"I was driving on my way to City Hall to look at the agenda for that week's council meeting when I heard a lot of jabbering on my police radio about wind damage on Grizzly Peak," says Michael Brown, who was Berkeley's city manager. "So I thought, 'I think I'll go up there and see what they're yakking about.'"

"I drove all the way to the Kensington line, but I couldn't find anything. But when I turned around and looked back, I could see smoke over the Oakland hills. So I turned around and drove over there to take a closer look. I came around a bend, and all of a sudden the whole world was on fire. I had driven right into it."

Beating a hasty retreat, he rushed to the police station to set up a central command post. Then he and Fire Chief Gary Cates headed for the front line: the Claremont Hotel, where firefighters were making a last-ditch stand.

"So here I was on my porch at the Yosemite Lodge when there was a knock on the door. A hand stuck in with a note that read, 'Come home at once! Berkeley is burning down!'"

— Former Berkeley Mayor Loni Hancock

It was touch and go for hours until the late afternoon, when the wind suddenly shifted back toward the hills.

"If the angle of the wind had been slightly different, the fire would have burned all of Berkeley, all the way to the Bay," says Brown. "There's no question about it. This is still the worst urban/wildland fire in American history. People lost everything. And 25 killed! It was devastating. But it could have been much, much worse."

Dave Orth, Berkeley fire captain

"I was the captain of Engine No. 2," says Dave Orth, who today is Berkeley's assistant fire chief. "We were just sitting down for the traditional fireman's Sunday meal, a huge meal, when I looked out the window and said, 'Gee, there's a lot of smoke! Then there was a lot more smoke, and we knew we had something huge on our hands.'"

Making its way through side streets, Engine No. 2 was the first to arrive at the fire line on Tunnel Road. "I decided to hold the line there," he says. "We had to keep Tunnel Road open as a supply line to get our resources in. And we couldn't let the fire get to the Claremont. Aside from its historic value, it's a huge amount of timber, which would have provided even more fuel for the firestorm."

"I also knew that the hydrants on Tunnel Road are on a different line from the ones in the hills. Which meant we could draw water from areas that weren't immediately threatened, instead of drawing on the tanks in the fire area."

"The three rules of fire fighting are: 1. Don't tie up to hydrants, 2. Stay mobile and 3. Don't waste your water. We violated all three that day. We had to, because we needed to create



THE SKIES above the Oakland hills were filled with billowing smoke. MARK J. RALZON/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

a curtain of water if we were to have any hope at all. But it was only possible because those hydrants were on a separate line."

It was a desperate battle for hours. "To tell the truth, I was sure we'd lose all the houses above Tunnel Road," says Orth. "As it turns out, we managed to save half of them."

"I know some say that the only reason the fire stopped is because the wind changed. But if you look at the maps of the fire area, you'll see a finger of green sticking out into the mass of brown that indicates the areas that were burned. That's where the firefighters made our stand. So, yes, people do make a difference."

Elihu Harris, mayor of Oakland

"I was shopping at the Farmer's Market at Jack London Square when I saw the smoke," says Oakland's former two-term mayor, Elihu Harris. "I drove to Oakland Tech and parked my car there, and the cops drove me to the command post at Broadway and Highway 24."

"I stood there with Lamont Ewell at the edge of the freeway, watching the fire racing down the hill. 'Frankly, we didn't understand the breadth of the problem at first, in terms of the number of people we would have to evacuate and the narrowness of the roads. What followed was the unfolding of a nightmare. Day turned into night. It was beyond our control.'"

"The next 24 hours were spent trying to regain control of the situation. The most important thing was to reassure people and help them contend with the aftermath. I called the governor and got him to declare this a disaster area. Then we set up a one-stop center at the Safeway on Claremont, to help victims deal with insurance companies, local agencies, contractors, unions, FEMA, whatever."

Harris didn't get much sleep that night, or for many nights after — partly because, like thousands of others, he was sleeping in a strange bed.

"I was among those who got evacuated," he says. "I had to stay in a hotel for a week."

Henry Gardner, Oakland city manager

"I was halfway across the Atlantic when the fire broke out," says Oakland's former city manager, Henry Gardner. "I was coming back from a conference in England. When I arrived at SFO, my niece met me at the gate and she was in tears."

"As we came over the bridge, we could see the fire, and I thought, 'My God! How can so much smoke be coming from the hills?'"

"When I got to the command post, I was met by my assistant city manager, Craig Kocian, and that's when I got my second big shock: He told me 2,500 homes

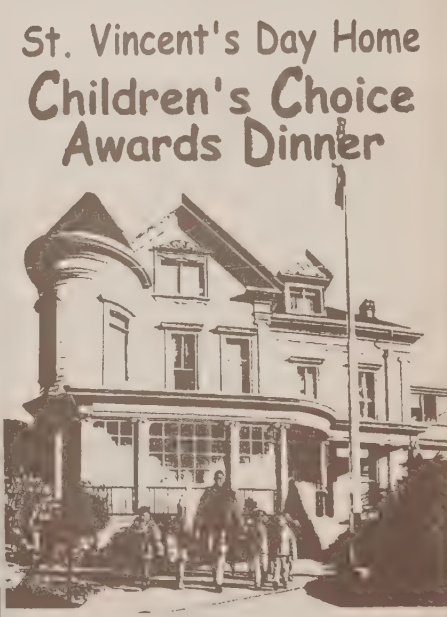
were lost, plus 500 apartment buildings. I was just stunned. It looked like the whole city was aflame. I remember the fire chief telling me, 'No amount of water will put this fire out. The only thing that can save us is if the wind changes.' And it did, thank God."

But it might not change next time, and Gardner is convinced there will be a next time, thanks

to our own short-sightedness.

"One thing I find incomprehensible is that barely a year later, the people in this area voted down a proposal to tax themselves \$75 per year to fund a Vegetation Management Program," he says.

"That's only \$6.75 per month! When you think of what these same people's homes are worth now, it's unbelievable."



St. Vincent's Day Home Children's Choice Awards Dinner

Celebrating 90 years of serving the Children and Families of Oakland and the East Bay

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS PROVIDIAN KPIX TELEVISION

LEST WE FORGET

Memorial garden blooms as a living, silent tribute

■ Firestorm Memorial is the result of the work of more than 1,000 volunteers

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

At the western edge of Hiller Highlands, near where Highway 13 becomes Tunnel Road in Berkeley, with the Bay and the San Francisco and Oakland skylines in the distance, a green and jumbled garden is now in bloom.

Grasses and oaks and roses and rosemary, irises, manzanita, water reeds and scores of other species vie for attention. Blossoms of red, pink, yellow, purple and white abound. Bees and butterflies explore and other insects crawl and climb about on their daily rounds.

In the middle of the garden a wooden high-voltage power pole, still in use, is blackened from the fire to a height 15 or 20 feet above the ground and it seems to fit right in. At the south end of the half-acre garden is a bronze sculpture and dedication plaque and aluminum panels with the inscribed names of the 25 people who died in the firestorm.

"In this memorial garden, we pay silent tribute to those who lost their lives in the firestorm of Oct. 20, 1991," the plaque reads. "We express our heartfelt sympathy and understanding to those surviving families and to those who lost their homes and personal possessions in the fire ... The garden and its sculpture symbolize the spirit of remembrance and rejuvenation to people throughout the community."

The Firestorm Memorial Garden grew from the ashes of the fire thanks to the hard work and donations of more than 1,000 volunteers, said its principal volunteer, Hiller Drive resident, Gordon

Piper. It was dedicated to the community three years after the firestorm in 1994. Although Piper led the memorial garden effort, he and his wife, Sue Piper, themselves firestorm survivors, say that people throughout the community gave time and effort.

Ninety organizations are listed in the dedication program as supporters of the garden, which was designed by landscape architect Ron Lutsko. The San Francisco Foundation and Kiwanis Clubs gave generous grants, but the lion's share of donations and work came from individuals.

"It was almost kind of like an ecumenical movement," Gordon Piper, 55, said.

Mormons weeded, Buddhists planted trees, kids from the Jewish Community Center worked in the garden.

"We had Presbyterians, we had Baptists," Piper said.

Several landscape contractors volunteered to help and people just driving by stopped to work in the garden. For some people, Piper said, working on the memorial garden was a kind of therapy. A daffodil grower developed and named a new hybrid after firestorm victim Gregor E. McGinnis, whose favorite flower was daffodils.

"So Gregor McGinnis lives on every spring when his Gregor McGinnis daffodils spring forth on the slope," Piper said.

More than \$50,000 was raised for the garden, which is owned by Caltrans and maintained by a community group called the North Hills Landscape Committee.

"After the firestorm the community kind of looked like it had been bombed," Piper said. Area residents had been looking to landscape the Hiller entrance before the fire and after the fire the entrance project became the memorial garden project. After



HILLER DRIVE RESIDENT Gordon Piper spends much of his spare time tending to the Firestorm Memorial Garden. Piper, the principal volunteer gardener, is an advocate of public gardens.

the fire the question became, "Do you quit or keep going?" he said.

"The firestorm not only destroyed 99 percent of the houses, it had a similar impact on the landscape. The eucalyptus looked like burnt sticks. One of the things that motivated me is that I didn't want to have to apologize for where I lived and felt it was important to go to work on the garden."

Ten years after the fire and seven years after the memorial garden's dedication, Hiller Highlands resident, Ilene Weinreb, said that the garden still matters

to people and serves as a firestorm reminder. Weinreb, 69, is the treasurer of the landscape committee that has about ten people who still do volunteer work regularly in the garden.

"If you don't have something like that, it's very easy to forget and it's dangerous to forget," she said.

Weinreb lost her home and possessions in the firestorm and said she and her daughter had to run down the street away from the blaze.

"We just got out," she said. Weinreb was afraid that starting her car would cause an explosion because the fire was so close to her house and garage. The two women took off on foot with an Afghan over their heads to keep sparks from setting their hair afire.

"People come by and they sit

on the benches. I think people use it to relax and be contemplative," she said of the memorial garden. "We have to be vigilant or it'll happen again."

Alvarado Road resident, Peter Scott, 67, agrees that the memorial garden is an important site in the community.

"For the people who experienced the fire, I think that it is very symbolic of being involved in the community," he said.

Scott's 85-year-old mother, Frances Gray Scott, lost her life in the firestorm. The rest of the family was in Monterey for the weekend. The mother, an invalid, stayed at home with a care-giver assistant. The assistant left for church after breakfast and later was not allowed back up the hill because of the fire.

"The police departments, Berkeley

and Oakland, both told the assistant) and other people that mother had been evacuated, that was not true," Scott said.

"My sense of what the garden is, is that it's a statement about the need for the community to stay together and work together," Scott said.

"It's nice to know that she didn't become ether," he said about the memorial. "It's nice to know that there's something don't know — you get philosophical about who you are and what you're doing in your lifetime. What you hope is maybe you make some trash the sand and maybe you make a difference and maybe what's left is better than what you when you arrived."



THE FIRESTORM MEMORIAL GARDEN was established by local resident Gordon Piper, and is located at the intersection of Route 13 and Hiller Drive.

Gateway Garden and Pavilion offers history, causes of fire, earthquakes

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

The North Hills Landscape Committee has big plans for the large granite boulders currently seen piled near the intersection of Caldecott Lane and Tunnel Road.

The quarter-acre city-owned site will someday be the Gateway Garden and Pavilion, a permanent outdoor exhibit on the history and causes of fire and earthquakes in the region.

The open-air educational pavilion building will have display panels where people can learn about what they can do to help prevent another firestorm.

"If you go there, you could learn about the fire and learn how to build and plant responsibly," said Peter Scott, architect of the pavilion building. The gateway garden will include the education pavilion, a path around boulder formations, a large boulder, sundial and a rift in the ground that simulates an earthquake fault.

"A winding path takes you by plant materials that are the appropriate thing to plant in a wild-urban interface," Scott said. He said he designed the pavilion building to "symbolize the burned trees and the scarred standing chimneys that were left

ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY

From 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 21, there will be a firestorm 10th anniversary groundbreaking ceremony for the Gateway Garden and Pavilion. People are to meet at Hiller Drive and Charing Cross Road at 8:45 a.m. A bagpiper will lead people in a walk down the future gateway garden site. Refreshments will be served after the groundbreaking ceremony. For more information call Sue Piper at 843-3828.

after the fire."

"And then around that, or in the midst of that, there will be a deck where you can stop and look at the view," he added. "Suspended in the midst of that is just this thin steel outline of a roof to suggest the ghost of the house that was there before."

Gordon Piper has worked for the past eight years to make the Gateway Garden and Pavilion a reality. Piper said the project will be about a quarter-acre, but may occupy about a half-acre eventually.

State transportation grants, grants from various foundations and a grant from the Alameda County Transportation Author-

ity and companies making in-kind donations have fed the Gateway Garden fund. Sue Piper said the project is expected to cost about \$750,000, but the Pipers hope that volunteer labor and donated materials will reduce the actual dollars needed. "We have sufficient funds to build the structure, to do the displays and to do the first phase of the garden. There are another two phases of the garden and as money comes in we will complete them," Sue Piper said.

"This is meant to be an educational exhibit center. When you look at the history of fires in this area — every 20 years there's a major fire" she said, noting that public agencies such as Caltrans, the city of Oakland and the East Bay Municipal Utility District own large tracts of land in the area and need help with maintenance and vegetation management.

"What we've discovered is that you can't depend on the agencies to do it themselves because it's a huge undertaking. It's very expensive; it's very labor-intensive," she said. "It's going to take public-private partnerships such as we have done with this garden to make it happen. People are going to need to work together."

Lost in the line of fire: Saying goodbye to Grandy

By Lucinda Ryan
STAFF WRITER

As the fire rumbled through neighborhoods and leaped across roads, it devoured whole houses in a gulp and reduced trees to sizzling kindling.

It also extinguished 25 human lives.

Among them were a family of five, a firefighter, a police officer, and others who had the bad fortune to be along the path of the flames.

The History Room in the Oakland Library contains personal accounts from survivors. Among them is a particularly detailed account, written by T. Ferguson, of a family's fight to find an 85-year-old grandmother who loved spending time with her grandchildren.

She also loved Scrabble and pumpkin pie and cookies and good conversation. She had been made frail by rheumatoid arthritis, but that was only physical; it didn't affect her zest for life.

Her name was Frances Gray Scott, but to her grandchildren, she was Grandy. She lived with her son, and daughter-in-law and their 7- and 14-year-old daughters in the Alvarado Road house in Berkeley. When the family wasn't home, they made sure someone came to look in on her, to make her meal for her and maybe sit down with her for a game of Scrabble.

The couple and one daughter left for Carmel the Saturday morning before the fire, and the other daughter left the house to stay with a friend.

On Sunday morning, the caretaker made breakfast for Grandy before heading off for a church service. It was a golden Indian summer morning, the harbinger of a warm, easy day of newspapers waiting on patio chairs, the sounds of birds and children and the tinkle of ice in a tall glass of tea.

On Sunday afternoon, the couple were on the 2½-hour drive back to the Bay Area when their car phone rang. It was one of Grandy's caretakers, the one who had been with her Saturday

evening. She had just learned there was a fire going on in the hills, a big fire, and everybody in the area had been evacuated. She and the other caretaker were checking the hospitals for Grandy, but they hadn't located her yet.

The couple called Grandy's daughter. She was very anxious about her mother's whereabouts. She also had to tell her brother and his wife that their house had burned down.

For the next two days, the suddenly homeless family made countless phone calls in their search for Grandy that led to little but frustration. They went to convalescent homes and hospitals and shelters, always leaving with nothing.

It became clearer that the chances of Grandy having been evacuated, despite what police and fire officials said, were growing slim. But hope is a tenacious thing that can hang on tight, even on the backs of nightmares.

Finally, on Tuesday, the family was allowed by police and fire authorities for the first time to return to the site of their former home.

Nothing was left. Even the chimney had been reduced to hot dust. Heat still rose from the ashes on the ground.

Gingerly, they tried to pick through the wreckage to find anything tangible remaining of the lives they had lived up until two days earlier. But the ground was too hot for their fingers to touch for long.

While they were there, Grandy's daughter-in-law saw evidence of human remains and notified nearby authorities.

Three days later, the coroner's office confirmed Grandy's death.

As the family pushed on, looking for a place to live, they found that Grandy went with them. Her daughter-in-law writes of considering details, such as how Grandy would negotiate the stairs, as part of their decision-making in choosing a new home.

"The mind takes a long time to process out responsibility and

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO WERE LOST

The City of Oakland will install a plaque at the Rockridge BART station with the names of those who died in the fire. The ceremony will take place at 10:20 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21.

Those who died

Eunice F. Barkell, 79
Gail A. Baxter, 61
May Elizabeth Bloss, 85
Mary Lucille Brantly, 78
Robert Emery Cox, 64
Terrill DuPont, 58
Carolyn Grant, 7
John Alexander Grant, 77
John W. Grubensky, 32
Segall Livnah, 18
Phillip Loggins, 51
Lucy Chi-Wen Mantz, 46
Gregor E. McGinnis, 46
Louis D. McNeary Jr., 44
Patrick Emmett O'Neill, 40
Leigh Ortenberger, 62
Martha Gabriela Reed, 18
James M. Riley Jr., 49
Kimberly Dakis-Robson, 37
Frances Gray Scott, 85
Virginia P. Smith, 61
Anne Tagore, 54
Aina Turjanis, 64
Cheryl Turjanis, 25
Paul Tyrrell, 61

commitment and caring," she wrote.

They made plans, according to Grandy's wishes, to bury her ashes beneath a magnolia tree.

The family eventually found a small but sunny house in a neighborhood not far from their former one.

During the puzzle of pain and confusion that followed when a spot of relief arrived when the 6-year-old cat, which had disappeared during the fire, returned to its burned home unharmed. That evening, that cat was lost with his family.

Inside Complete East Bay and San Francisco movie listings [C6]

Inside Community Calendar has something for everyone to do [C8]

San Francisco News • J V P M

We've all seen better days

It may think I've had a rough month, but haven't I all my life? And I didn't lose my mind or family. The day after the World Trade Center attacks, I dislocated my shoulder in a house-fall. It was the first time I'd seen an emergency room in 10 years. Then, after five weeks of healing and rehab on the shoulder, I was watching the A's getting beat on TV Tuesday night and accidentally popped out again. Ouch. The local hospital E.R. had the A's-Yanks game on. The Fox telecast didn't make me feel any better.

Actually, I was getting pretty crazy when the A's were up two games to nothing and it appeared the talented young Oakland squad would sweep the Yanks. That's because I honestly don't think I've ever seen more one-sided TV coverage of any sporting event.

From the moment the Game One pre-game show began, Fox's sycophantic announcers were unstinting in their praise of the Yankees — of the Yankees. It was ridiculous, and I'm sure many of you A's fans felt the same way — long before the series took an ugly turn. This fine young A's team got little respect from Fox.

Hearing Derrick Jeter all but named an immortal and hearing mention at all of the A's amazing 17-game home winning streak was infuriating, among other things.

But you know what? As much as I was to see the A's lose as upset as I am with Fox's blatant homer/one-sided coverage, a part of me is glad to see the city of New York come out on top. I'd like to think even the most avid Oakland fan feels the same way. These days, we're all New Yorkers to a degree. Go get 'em, Yanks.

You did read it here first: Not in that San Fran paper. Two months ago, in fact.

I broke the story here in August that KRON anchor Pete Wilson would be jumping back to KGO-TV — the station where he broke into this market and on whose corporate sister station, KGO Radio, he does a radio talk show.

I was told Wilson's defection was a "done deal" by two Channel 7 anchors, and despite Wilson's understandable reticence about this sensitive (to him) story, I went with my two good sources and printed it.

After my piece on his imminent jump to Channel 7 appeared here, I called the KRON anchor. Now I've played golf with the lantern-jawed Channel 7 anchor for years and have exchanged jokes and phone calls many times with the towering Milwaukee native over the past 13 years. I've always had a cordial relationship with Wilson.

But when I called him after that piece appeared in August, Wilson told me testily, "Thanks a lot, Bill," and hung up the phone.

I knew at that instant my story was confirmed. And I'm sorry I didn't sit on it and wait for a formal announcement — for it to be subsequently leaked to the Chronicle.

If you want to hear Wilson say, you'll have to tune in his KGO Radio afternoon talk show: KRON has yanked him off the air. Wilson, who starts at KGO-TV in January, will now leave the family time over the next days he cites as one reason for leaving KRON. At KGO, Wilson apparently anchor only one radio newscast.

Updates on other KRON detectors: Wilson's departure leaves the future of KRON's 6 p.m. newscast in jeopardy. His co-anchor, Wendy Haddad, is shaky at best — the longtime East Bay resident

See MANN, Page C7



SIMPLY RIPPING? Atmosphere and Johnny Depp's performance are "From Hell's" saving graces.

Brothers grim: Hughes' film too hellish

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

"From Hell" demands such complete audience detachment that it starts to feel like a test to measure a director's power against our vulnerability. How far will we follow the co-directors, twins Allen and Albert Hughes, as they present us with close-ups of throat-slashing, conspiracy theories and even a love story blooming among the bodies?

The first thing we have to relinquish is our curiosity about Jack the Ripper. "From Hell" is an adaptation of Alan Moore's 1999 graphic novel of the same name. Both pose a theory about the Ripper that leads to the highest ranks of government in late-19th-century England and ties the story up in such neat knots that our darkest factory, the imagination, has no wiggle room at all.

A movie that sets out to explain the legend of Jack the Ripper treads on treacherous ground; doubt and lingering questions are crucial to perpetuating the legend. "From Hell" toys with history the same way Oliver Stone's "JFK" did, presenting fiction as reality for the

REVIEW

- **WHAT:** "From Hell"
- **STARRING:** Johnny Depp, Heather Graham, Ian Holm, Robbie Coltrane, Jason Flemyng
- **RATING:** R (strong violence/gore, sexuality, language and drug content)
- **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 2 minutes
- **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
- **GRADE:** C

gullible.

The Hughes brothers, whose earlier efforts "Menace II Society" and "Dead Presidents" were plentiful in the violence department, show surprising restraint in the early part of the movie. We see the Ripper pull his first victim into the shadows like a black spider, just a set of dark-clad arms scooping her up, and we hear the murder rather than see it. There's a stylized knife blade being waved around, but it's relatively discreet, implied rather than shown.

Inspector Fred Abberline (Johnny Depp, his usual skillful,

entrancing self), a brooding fellow who uses visions to help him solve crimes, is hauled out of an opium den to inspect the body. The opium helps fuel the visions, a detective technique that may well be further explored in the fourth or fifth spinoff of "Law & Order." Visiting the morgue with his sidekick Peter Godley (Robbie Coltrane, woefully saddled with the movie's worse lines), Abberline swats flies out of the way and watches impassively as the medical examiner pukes his guts out over the violated bodies of the first couple of victims.

We're only shown hints, such as a bloody pelvis, glimpsed from the side, of what the Ripper has done. The camera wants to look, though, and it wants us to want to look as well. Eventually we'll have to, because the Hughes brothers lack the discipline required to not resort to sick payoffs. By our fourth killing, we see gratuitous, frontal throat-slashing and a filming technique straight out of music videos. By the fifth, the human form is rendered as a slab of butchered meat while we, like zombies, watch.

On a more positive note, the

Hughes duo have taken the interesting, and likely valid, viewpoint that London's ghetto, circa 1888, is not so different from the late-20th-century ghetto squalor they've explored so thoroughly before. They paint the Whitechapel district, expertly recreated in and around Prague, as a hellish maze of back alleys, populated by whores, violent punks and drunken, filthy Johns. The vivid mood of decadence and despair they create is, other than Depp, the movie's best attribute.

The skanky prostitutes who roam these streets and become the Ripper's prey live up to the polite Victorian term used to describe them, the "unfortunates." The story focuses on a particular gang of five friends, including Dark Annie Chapman (played by Katrin Cartlidge, who will be familiar to Mike Leigh fans) and a surly lesbian named Liz Stride (Susan Lynch). Rounding out the pack is a red-haired Irish immigrant, Mary Kelly (Heather Graham), who never turns a trick in front of us. Given that she's much prettier than the rest of the gals and her bosom is

See HELL, Page C7

Mixed bag of offerings on Masquers lineup



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

Masquers Playhouse of Point Richmond has come up with an enticing list of five productions for its 2002 season: nicely balancing familiar favorites of the "like-to-see-that-again" variety with a trio of fairly unfamiliar choices that skirt the dreaded "oh-no-not-that-again" complaint.

Here are thumbnail descriptions to pencil in on your next year's calendar or date book: **Jan. 18-Feb. 23:** "Mornings at Seven," directed by Theo Collins. Two of the four Gibb sisters have lived next door to each other for most of their lives. All four intimately know the lives of the others. When their brother's longtime "intended" visits, all four sisters converge with unexpected results.

March 29-May 4: "Communicating Doors," directed by Serena Anderson. This is Alan Ayckbourn's newest time-twisting, spine-tingling suspense romp — a veritable stew, so it's said by those Masquers folks, of "two parts Alfred Hitchcock and a dash of Rod Serling and you have the recipe for Britain's



DAVID FENERTY, as the prestigious Henry Carr, is served by Bennett the butler, played by Joel Green, in the Actors Ensemble of Berkeley production of Tom Stoppard's "Travesties," opening tonight.

master of farcical delight." I might add, it also includes a spunky young sex specialist who also gets tossed into the pot of murder and deception.

June 7-July 20: "City of Angels," directed by Linda Ellinwood. This Tony Award-winning musical comedy is set in the glamorous and seductive Hollywood of the 1940s. The story line leads us through the

misadventures of a young novelist called Stine attempting to convert his popular novel into a screenplay about Stone, his private eye alter ego.

As summer begins to segue into fall, we enter more familiar territory with such landmarks as:

Aug. 23-Sept. 28: "An Inspector Calls," directed by Carlene Court. J.B. Priestley's clas-

sic psychological thriller sits high on the shelf of Golden Oldies. When Inspector Goole calls unexpectedly on the well-to-do Birling family, his startling revelations not only shatter the very foundations of their lives, but challenge us all to examine our consciences.

See TUCKER, Page C7

EVENTS

General

Oakland Public Library —
MAIN BRANCH —
"Internet for Beginners," Oct. 24, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Limited to 13 people. In the Business Information Center Computer Lab.
125 14th St. 510-238-3615
CESAR E. CHAVEZ BRANCH —
"Day of the Dead Celebration/Celebración del Día de los Muertos," Oct. 24, 6:30 p.m. Ritual of Aztec dances and music with pre-Colombian instruments.
1900 Fruitvale Ave. 510-535-5620
DIMOND BRANCH —
"Internet Workshops," Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
3565 Fruitvale Ave. 510-482-7844
ELMHURST BRANCH —
"Author Talk: Guy Johnson," Oct. 24, 6 p.m. The author of "Standing at the Scratch Line" will discuss his book.
1427 88th Ave. 510-615-5727
GOLDEN GATE BRANCH —
Book Discussion Group, Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m.
5606 San Pablo Ave. 510-597-5023
ROCKRIDGE BRANCH —
"Coffee Break RandR," Oct. 20, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. A staged play reading with refreshments co-sponsored by Opera Piccola.
5366 College Ave. 510-597-5017
WEST OAKLAND BRANCH —
"Chess Workshop for Children," Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m.
1801 Adeline St. 510-597-5049
Free. Oakland, 510-238-3134 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

Cody's Bookstores —
David Rosenberg, Oct. 19. The author talks about "Dreams of Being Eaten Alive: The Literary Core of the Kabbalah."

Dalton Conley, Oct. 21. The author reads from "Honky," about being white in a mostly black and Puerto Rican neighborhood.
John R. MacArthur, Oct. 22. The author talks about "The Selling of 'Free Trade': NAFTA, Washington & the Subversion of American Democracy."

Michael Downing, Oct. 23. The author appears to discuss "Shoes Outside the Door: Scandals of Desire, Devotion and Excess at San Francisco Zen Center."

Anita Roddick, Oct. 24. The author talks about "Take It Personally," about the complexity of globalization.

Eric Muller, Oct. 25. The author discusses "Free to Die for Their Country: The Story of the Japanese American Draft Resisters in World War II."

Gregory Maguire, Oct. 27. The author reads from "Lost," his mystery about a woman haunted by the ghost of Jack the Ripper.
Christopher Hitchens, Oct. 28. The author returns to "Letters to a Young Contrarian."

At 1730 FOURTH ST.:
Jacques Pepin, Oct. 20, 4 p.m. The popular PBS show host and professional chef celebrates his newest book "Jacques Pepin Celebrates!" This event benefits Alice Water's Edible Schoolyard at King Middle School in Berkeley, a long-term project bringing gardening and cultivation skills together with fresh food preparation and appreciation for children in the community. \$15.

Simon Winchester, Oct. 25, 7 p.m. The author discusses "The Map That Changed the World: William Smith and the Birth of Modern Geology."

Alice McDrich, Oct. 26, 7 p.m. The author delivers "A Year in Chocolate: Four Seasons of Unforgettable Desserts."

Addie Someckh and Charlie Eckert, Oct. 27, 11 a.m. The creators of "The Inflatable Crown Balloon Hat Kit" demonstrate their skills in this event for young readers.

Darren Shan, Oct. 28, 4 p.m. The author visits from Ireland to bring "Cirque du Freak" and "The Vampire's Assistant" to America in this event for young readers.

Free. Readings at 7:30 p.m. and are at 2454 Telegraph Ave. unless noted otherwise. Berkeley, 510-845-7852.

Artship Foundation Tuesday Art Series — Presenting artists from a variety of disciplines who discuss their work and process.

Oct. 23. Gerald Perkins, portrait artist.
Free. Tuesday, 7 p.m. Waterfront Plaza Hotel Conference Room, Jack London Square, 10 Water St., Oakland. 510-268-4978 or www.artship.org

Oakland's Historic Downtown Walking Tours — through Oct. 31. The tours cover downtown Oakland and its historic waterfront. All tours begin promptly at 10 a.m. and last about an hour and a half. Reservations are recommended but not required.

"First Tuesday Tour" Visit City Hall and learn about its restoration. The tour also visits Frank H. Ogawa Plaza and city administration buildings. Meet at the front steps of City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza.

See EVENTS, Page C7

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

The Buddy Club presents "Halloween Magic," with famous Los Angeles magician and comedian, Hotel Magic Guy from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 21 at the Berkeley Richmond JCC Auditorium, 1414 Walnut St., (between Vine St. and Rose St.). The shows are targeted for kids ages 2 through 12 and their parents. Tickets: \$7 per person (under 2 years, free.) Call 235-SHOW for tickets, party reservations and show information or charge tickets online at www.TheBuddyClub.com

Teen Support Group meets twice a month Tuesday evenings at the Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave. The free support group is for teens who have a parent or caregiver with cancer. The meeting is co-facilitated by a teen whose mother had breast cancer. For more information, call PediatricCare at 531-7551.

Check out books from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library. Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237

Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck Ave., a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 549-9682.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judie, 215-4371.

LGBO Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to: lsinfo@uclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

Two public meetings at which proponents for the "Yes on C" position and the "No on C" position speak and answer questions at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 29 at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. The meetings are sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Berkeley, Albany and Emeryville. For more information, call 843-9824.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts celebrates its second year under new management with a free open house for the community. Special entertainment and a tour will highlight the Center's artistic partnerships. Doors open at 1 p.m. Entertainment begins at 2:15 p.m. Bring your entire family. The center is located at 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. For more information, visit www.juliamorgan.org or call 845-8542.

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. For more information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The West Berkeley Market continues through Oct. 28. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at University Avenue between Third and Fourth streets. The event includes crafts, specialty foods, music, and family fun. For more information, call 654-6346 or visit the Web site at www.westberkeley.com.

Dog and puppy temporary foster homes urgently needed. Shelters overcrowded, situation desperate. Call Hopalong Animal Rescue today, 530-5154.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-8606

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals.

See CALENDAR, Page C9

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Frank Bliss
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Calendar

For further information, call Katherine at 525-XXXX

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The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge, after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesday evenings, 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts hosts an informational and discussion session regarding dance opportunities in the Bay Area. The center opens its doors to the dance community and presents its plans for Dance Week 2002 and for future dance performances on the stage of Julia Morgan Theatre. The event is free. RSVP to Bridget Frederick at bridget@juliamorgan.org or by calling 845-8542, ext. 302. Visit the Web site at www.juliamorgan.org for more details.

Kensington Senior Activity Center meets from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The West Contra Costa Adult school and community volunteers present the Center's program of life-long learning. Attend any class or event. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Volunteers of all ages are needed. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for more information.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more information, call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For more information, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet monthly, on the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to

7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671

Toastmasters Meeting Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1

p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley Call 883-6708 for additional information.
Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS)

meets every Thursday evening at the
See CALENDAR, Page C10

Seniors Have Fun...Live Longer...Stay Sharper!

Socialization Offers Dementia Prevention For Seniors!

By Susan Rich

Fremont - Senior Independent and Assisted Living Communities offer a "Cruise Ship Lifestyle" that regenerates an enriched living environment.

Remember when you met your friends after school at the local soda shop for a chocolate malt, a few tunes on the jukebox and lots of talking. The highlight was enjoying your friends and catching up on the latest gossip. Your best friend knew all your secrets. Back then your parents got together with friends for social hour, dinner, a game of cards and to catch up on the latest "news".

Well, times may have changed but the need for socializing and having fun with friends never changes. As an adult child you feel the need to provide the social opportunities for your parents that have diminished over time. Perhaps you feel a sense of guilt because you are unable to provide what your parents truly need...their own best friends.

Are you currently trying to manage your job, family and social activities while organizing a complete social schedule for your parents who no longer drive, or should not be driving? Perhaps it's time to



Tim MacDonald enjoys a conversation with a resident in the community's elegant living room

design your parents as a "Cruise Ship Director" and research a more effective program for keeping them socially active.

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recent research indicates an active social network offers an enhanced lifestyle, longevity and protection from dementia.

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Explore your options at Carlton Plaza, call a Retirement Counselor today for more information or schedule lunch and a tour...or better yet, enjoy a blast from the past in our new 50's cafe. Sip a cool malt or root beer float, listen to a few tunes from the jukebox and we'll discuss the opportunity for your parents to once again enjoy social hour, dinner, a game of cards with friends. Your parents will discover a great place to make friends and you'll discover a great way to reduce stress. Let us be the "Cruise Ship Director" and you can go back to being "the kid" again.

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93" leather sofa \$995. Loveseat \$945. Chair \$795. Also available in beige leather. Marble coffee table \$395. Rug \$595.



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Calendar

FROM PAGE C9

First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish. Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1301 Hearst. Call 544-6107 for additional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 526-1235 for more information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships, Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS; 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin 233-2948 or Karen, 525-8858.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight way. Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music

Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra presents "Curiose Inventioni," at 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 21, at the First Congregational Church at Dana and Durant Avenues. Concert master is Elizabeth Blumstock. Ticket prices: \$34 to \$50. To order tickets, visit www.philharmonia.org. For performances in San Francisco, Berkeley, or Palo Alto, call 415-392-4400.

Trinity Chamber Concerts present the UCB's Collegium Musicum in a performance of masterpieces by John Dowland, at 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19. All concerts take place in Trinity Chapel, 2320 Dana St., in Berkeley. Admission is by donation. No one is turned away for lack of the suggested donation: \$12 general and \$8 for students, seniors, or handicapped. Call 549-3864 for more information.

The JazzSchool/LaVette, 2377 Shattuck Ave., presents musicians Wayne Wallace and Rhythm and Rhyme at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 21. Admission is \$15. For reservations or more information, call 845-5373.

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Ducksan Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myrna 531-3042 or Lelia 6555-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scrub Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne

Layover

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support

Alta Bates Medical Center presents a free support group for family, friends caring for older adults from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., on the third Wednesday of each month. The session takes place at the Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley, third floor, room 3369B (take elevator B). The group will focus on the needs of older adults with serious medical problems, psychiatric illnesses, such as depression, dementia and/or substance abuse. For more information or if interested in a private consultation, call 802-1725.

The number of recent tragedies both locally and across the nation can evoke reactions that can affect us emotionally, physically, in our thoughts and behavior. Alameda County Crisis Support Services offers help through its 24-hour crisis line, grief counseling, education and community debriefing programs. Call 849-2212 for more information.

A free Yoga for Cancer class meets every Wednesday from 11:30 to 12:45 p.m. at the Alta Bates Comprehensive Cancer Center. The classes are open to both current patients and long-term survivors. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

Restorative Yoga class meets on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in central Berkeley. Cost: \$10 per class. Easy, luxurious stretches and mindful breathing help to ease tension and discomfort and open the body to relaxation and well-being. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

Berkeley Fibromyalgia Support Group presents Dr. Kathryn Williams from noon to 2 p.m. at Alta Bates Medical Center, Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Williams is the former chairman for Department of Rehabilitation, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center. Her

topic is "Current Understanding of Fibromyalgia." The event is free. For more information, call D.L. Malinowsky, 601-0550. For directions only, call Barbara Ridley at 204-4503.

Adult Survivors of Incest, a local support group in the east bay is being formed. The group will gather for healing discussions and also various activities, including hiking, dancing, classic film watching, traveling, or any fun activity. Interested participants, call Attica Peece at 625-1698. Feel free to leave a message.

The pain and grief associated with the death of a loved one can often feel overwhelming — especially during the holidays. Many people suffer isolation. The grief counseling project is here to help. No one is turned away for lack of money. Call 889-1104.

"The Grief Care Community" offers 8-week bereavement support groups as well as art therapy grief groups, and individual support. Call 540-0830 for additional information.

The local self-help group for Berkeley National Multiple Sclerosis Society meets periodically. Call Tom at 653-4534 for additional information.

Lecture/Workshop

A free web site design seminar, given by Winner Circle Computer Systems, takes place from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 20. The two-hour seminar will include how to develop, set up, and maintain your own web site, a HTML steaming video, audio technologies and programming, hosting, new technologies and more. Space is limited. For more information or to RSVP, call 845-4814.

Theater, Dance & Film

The Actors Ensemble of Berkeley present Tom Stoppard's "Travesties," at 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 19, at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck (at Berryman).

The production continues at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday through Nov. 17, plus Thursday, Nov. 15. The production is a witty fantasy about encounters between James Joyce, Nikolai Lenin, Tristan Tzara, and other notables in Zurich during World War I. Admission is \$10, with discounts for groups of 15 or more. For reservations, call 528-5620.

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PREVENTION

Plans for keeping homes defensible

Fire prevention
management key

By Jessica M. Scully
CORRESPONDENT

Fire prevention is a common problem in areas where wildlands are next to houses. Experts don't have to be devastating, but they do have to be experts at an event Saturday, Oct. 13, at Merritt College's environmental center.

Robinson Freeman, director of the environmental center at Merritt College, speaks to a class about fire prevention and ecology.

"We're not going to stop it, but you can prevent it from getting catastrophic," he said.

One of the most important fire prevention techniques is vegetation management, according to the experts. At Saturday's event, vegetation experts and firefighters explained ways to keep homes manageable, including keeping a defensible space around a home, using native species and avoiding ladder fuels.

Many homeowners may think defensible space, a low-vegetation area around a house, is unsightly.

"A lot of people don't do it because they think it looks like a moonscape," said plant expert Charli Rodgers. "Defensible space doesn't mean a bare space, said Oakland fire inspector Rodgers.

"The policy doesn't read, 'No vegetation, but it has to be maintained,' usu-



ROBIN FREEMAN, director of the environmental center at Merritt College, speaks to a class about fire prevention and ecology.

ally within 30 feet of a house, depending on where the house is situated on a plot, she said.

"Ten years ago, we wanted no green," she said. Now the emphasis is more on managing the vegetation and planting intelligently, she said.

Trees and shrubs near a home are fine, as long as they are trimmed and surrounded by a small space of bare soil, she said. Trees shouldn't hang over a house, especially near a chimney, because sparks could set the tree alight, she said.

The same is true farther from a home, according to information provided Saturday. Brush 100 feet from a house should be cleared, especially in the direction of the wind. Grass and other plants should be no higher than 18 inches, but should be kept to prevent soil from eroding. Larger freestanding plants are fine as long as they don't create ladder fuels.

The ladders occur when plants in varying heights are close to each other. They are dangerous because the different heights of plants provide fodder for the fire to spread from plant to plant, growing taller and hotter.

In choosing plants, Saturday's experts recommended native species. Two non-native plants that they especially urged avoiding are French broom and eucalyptus trees.

French broom can support flame lengths of 8 to 35 feet, Freeman said. "An 8-foot flame length is when a firefighter leaves," he said.

Eucalyptus are problematic because their lightweight bark catches fire quickly and is easily blown away by the wind, causing a fire to spread.

Monterey pine, not native to the Oakland hills, is another problem, Daniels said. The trees are prone to pine pitch canker, a disease that makes them dryer

and more flammable, she said. Many are also old, which means they carry a lot of dead material that is also very flammable, she said.

Native plants are often a better choice because they have adapted to the region, she said. They have the added advantage of providing a habitat for native animals, she added.

But even with native plants, homeowners should make sure green leaves aren't masking lots of dead, dry, fire-prone vegetation.

In her own home in the Kensington hills, Daniels was surprised to discover that an oak tree near her house that seemed fine actually had two truckloads of dead vegetation when she had it cleaned up.

"It looks prettier now, I still have this beautiful oak framing my home and my yard," but her home is now safer, she said. Saturday's experts also stressed that

BE SAFE, BE PREPARED

Most Bay Area communities have Preparedness Programs, usually offered through the local fire department. Here is a listing of the contact information for some of the local programs:

■ Oakland Fire Department Office of Emergency Services CORE Program (Citizens of Oakland Respond to Emergencies); Coleen Bell, 510-238-7044

■ Berkeley Office of Emergency Services CERT Program (Community Emergency Response Training); Dory Ehrlich, 510-981-5605

■ El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department NEAT Program (Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams); Pat Caffel, 510-525-7268

■ Albany Fire Department EQPP Program (Earthquake Preparedness Program); Brian Crudo, 510-528-5775 ext. 2

Checklist to hunt for hazards in and around your home:

- Stove top clean and free of clutter
- Countertop appliances (and cords) in good repair
- Space heaters at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from walls and flammable materials
- Fireplace should have screen
- Service heating system once a year
- Have chimney inspection once a year
- Large, deep ashtrays for smokers
- Matches and lighters locked or out of children's reach
- Adequate electrical circuits for heat-producing appliances, such as ranges, dryers, microwave ovens, and electric space heaters
- Keep "defensible space" around your home through vegetation management.
- Grow native plant species around your home and avoid "ladder fuels."

fire safety can help people and wild animals to share the land better. Homeowners provide a path for larger animals to get from one wooded area to another through fire breaks, Freeman said.

For smaller animals, homeowners can leave small, freestanding piles of brush for the animals to hide in between wooded areas, he said.

FireSafe 2001 helps to get out the word on fire-safety

Vanessa Kaneshiro

CORRESPONDENT

Years after one of the state's most destructive and deadly fires, local residents gathered at FireSafe 2001 on Saturday, Oct. 13, at London Square to trade tips on the 1991 East Bay fire and swap fire-safety and prevention techniques.

The day-long event was sponsored by the Hills Emergency Foundation of Oakland, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the state's Office of Emergency Services and more than 50 vendors.

Along with food, live jazz and

servation Corps (which helped to rehabilitate the Oakland hills after the fire) shared information and spoke with East Bay residents about fire safety.

Lin McNamara, a conservationist at the Conservation Corps' emergency management branch, explained that some 250 people worked 12-hour days for more than a month to remove brush, place seeds and lay thousands of straw blankets over the charred hills to prevent erosion.

The 1991 firestorm caused the deaths of 25 people, the destruction of more than 3,000 homes and property and business losses worth more than \$1.5

working on it."

The brilliant sunshine and the balmy temperatures at the event, Mills said, should remind event participants and others of the roots of the '91 firestorm. "Yesterday and today are red flag days for high fire hazards," she said.

Stephen Quarles, a wood scientist who works for the University of California's agriculture and natural resources department, was at Jack London Square to help homeowners decide which products would best protect their homes. He displayed an exhibit with extensive test results of fire damage on different types of exterior roof and deck materials. "What we have to do is communicate the information to homeowners without being boring," he explained. "And that's a big challenge."

Although the event aimed to be as comprehensive as possible, East Bay residents had mixed feelings about how effective FireSafe 2001 was in reaching the right audience — and enough people.

Robin Costa, just returning from San Francisco by ferry with her husband and grandchildren, was happy to stumble upon the FireSafe event. The couple's house in Lafayette was covered in ash and dust from the '91 fire.

Before she ushered her grandchildren onto a fire engine tour, Costa said she thought the event was informative and well-planned. "We remember (the firestorm) very well, and how high the winds were that day. It was very scary. I think it's wonderful to make people aware of fire safety."

But Robin's husband, Hank Costa, was more critical about the scant crowd and said, "You're not getting (the message) to that many people out here. (Organizers) need to be advertising in the newspapers to make more people aware."

"What advertisement they did, we didn't know," agreed Lynda Adams, 56, an Oakland hills resident. "We took the ferry (from San Francisco), and we saw everything. Had we heard about it (before), we would have come anyway, because it's very interesting."

"We were surprised that there weren't more crowds for what is set up here. But I think it's definitely worthwhile by all means. Our homes are valuable to all of us — as well as our lives."

Despite the criticism, event organizer Mills was optimistic about the modest crowds.

"This was one of our biggest

challenges, (and) we were worried about turnout." But, she added, "I'm actually very pleased. There have been other public-safety events where the turnout has been really bad. We advertised through all the media — television, radio and the newspapers."

Passionate about preventing

another tragedy like the 1991 firestorm, Mills stressed, "But we're always looking for new ways (to advertise)."

FireSafe 2001 is one of several events taking place this month that aims to raise awareness on fire safety and prevent tragedies like the '91 firestorm.

Gordon Piper, chairman of the North Hills Landscape Committee, was at FireSafe 2001 passing out fliers about a new permanent Gateway Garden and Pavilion Emergency Preparedness Exhibit, located at the intersection of Hiller Drive, Caldecott Lane and Old Tunnel Road.

Learning valuable lessons from '91, before it's too late

By Don Pearman

CONTRIBUTED

I spent Oct. 20, 1991, on the fireline in the Oakland hills, alternately fighting the fire and continuing my research about how to protect our homes from such fires.

Almost every city is vulnerable to a firestorm.

Many homes have been built on hillsides during the last 50 years. A part of the attraction of such locations is the view of the surrounding hills and valleys, and of the trees found in such areas. This wooded hillside location helps create the situation that makes homes susceptible to a firestorm.

Typically, in "Indian Summer," the trees are losing their leaves, the ground is dry, unusually strong wind blows from the east, and a fire is started. This fire can quickly spread and, if it is not put out promptly and completely, fire is capable of building internal pressures that essentially erupt as a firestorm. As the firestorm builds in intensity, it blows burning embers high into the sky to be blown farther downwind, igniting more trees, brush and homes. At this stage of the firestorm, the fire will be moving downwind faster than most people can run, making it impossible for firefighters and equipment to move into the center of the firestorm.

No amount of fire retardant or water can alone stop the fire. It needs to be fought house by house by firefighters with the proper equipment and training.

Spending that Sunday in October fighting the firestorm confirmed many of my previously held ideas, as well as teaching me new lessons about the dan-

LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM THE FIRESTORM

■ Plant trees no closer than 30 feet away from your house. Clear away trees that are within this area. Many houses surrounded by trees burned because the trees caught fire and transferred the fire to the house, frequently by way of the roof.

■ Plant only fire-resistant plants and shrubs within 30 feet of your house. Consult your local garden center for advice about recommended varieties.

■ Build decks of fire-resistant materials or build the deck away from the house. Many homes burned because their decks caught fire and served as a transfer point which allowed the flames to reach the house.

■ Keep any combustible firewood, fences, compost piles, etc. at least 5 feet away from your house, further if possible.

■ Install a roof with a steep pitch, preferably of Class-A fire resistant material. I found it interesting to find more than one wood-roofed house in the middle of the firestorm that did not catch fire because the roof was steep enough to allow the burning embers to roll off.

■ The streets can help make an effective firebreak. Organize neighborhood parties to clean the street area of all combustible material, such as

leaves, branches and debris.

■ Support your local water company in their effort to install generators to keep their pumps refilling reservoirs. Make sure that these pumping stations and reservoirs are also fireproof.

■ Support the local fire department in its efforts to not only adequately train their personnel, but also to create a trained supplemental volunteer fire patrol.

■ Local planning, police, fire, and emergency services departments all need a workable master plan which stresses communication among the departments.

■ Volunteers should be recruited and trained to deal with emergencies such as the firestorm. We cannot afford to have a standing army ready and waiting, but we can have an army of trained volunteers. I personally, as a volunteer along with other volunteers, helped stop the fire from taking an entire neighborhood before the firefighters could get there.

■ Gas and electric companies must turn off gas to affected areas early on in an emergency. I saw homes that were burned to the ground because of the gas from a broken line igniting and exploding.

■ Adequate insurance coverage for rebuilding after a fire must be available and the problem of inadequate insurance coverage must be addressed.

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HERMAN BUSTAMONTE JR./STAFF

WORKING THE BRUSH near Grizzly Peak Road is Javier Areis, one of the workers hired by the city of Oakland to eliminate the fuel that might feed another fire disaster.

of fire trucks and other emergency services vehicles, and other East Bay residents also enjoyed picking up information on fire safety and prevention.

At Crotty, 48, a health educator who lives in Montclair, was not a part of the festival. "I think it's really cool that they're doing this," Crotty said. "It's really timely that people are talking about prevention more now than they have in the past."

Preparedness is no easy task, he explained, with a sense of urgency. "When I'm looking at all the brochures, I'm thinking, 'We have to prepare for earthquakes, and we've got to get ready for fire! When do we have to live?'"

Office of the State Fire Marshal, California Fire Safe Council, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and California Con-

"Our main (effort) now has been to keep the (memories) alive, and to not to let people forget that it could happen again, and we have to be constantly working on it."

— Cheryl Mills, FireSafe 2001 event coordinator

billion. Roughly 10,000 people were displaced from their homes and businesses.

"Our main (effort) now has been to keep the (memories) alive," said Cheryl Mills, a FireSafe 2001 event coordinator and member of Hills Emergency Forum, "and to not to let people forget that it could happen again, and we have to be constantly

Working the brush near Grizzly Peak Road is Javier Areis, one of the workers hired by the city of Oakland to eliminate the fuel that might feed another fire disaster.

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The other big fire: A fiery day in 1923

By Peter Hegarty
STAFF WRITER

What Carl Theile remembers about that day 78 years ago when fire came sweeping down from the Berkeley hills was the wind.

It was hot and dry and gusting so strongly that he could hardly kick the ball as he played with his fellow students at Peralta Elementary School in Oakland.

Later, as smoke clouded the sun and turned the sky ashen, his sixth-grade teacher abruptly sent him home.

"She called each of us up individually from our desks to the classroom door," said Theile, now 86. "And she asked, 'If I send you home right now, will anyone be there to take care of you?'"

Looking in wonder

The wildfire that roared through north Berkeley on Sept.

17, 1923, destroyed nearly 600 buildings and left about 4,000 people homeless. It began near what is now Tilden Park and reached as far as Oxford Street before the wind changed and firefighters could contain it.

No one died, but the fire was estimated at the time to have caused about \$10 million in damage.

A University of California freshman with a broken leg was the only serious injury.

When Theile reached his home in the 6400 block of Colby Street near the Oakland-Berkeley border, his mother was outside, huddled with other women from the neighborhood.

Ash and smoldering debris — carried by the wind — was drifting down from the sky.

"It came down in streams," said Theile, as he sat inside a shed housing vintage firetrucks in Woodland, near Davis.

Theile remembers one spark — he thinks it may have come from a mattress — landing in a woman's hair bun, igniting it.

His mother extinguished it with her apron.

What the women especially feared was that drifting cinders would set one of the nearby wood shingle roofs ablaze.

They rushed from home to home, using garden hoses to soak the shingles.

"When I look back on it, I realize they were unsung heroes," Theile said. "It's the same with every catastrophe. There's always somebody in the background, doing something."

Theile's uncle, Charlie Fritz, a Berkeley firefighter whose duties once included firing up the steam engine that operated the water pump on horse-drawn fire wagons, spent that night patrolling the streets armed with a hand-



RETIRED FIREFIGHTER Carl Theile recalls the Berkeley fire of 1923 as he leans against a Alameda fire truck.

gun, guarding against looters.

Days later, Theile toured the fire-ravaged neighborhoods with his father. "The houses looked like skeletons," Theile said. "We were full of wonder at the devastation."

A veteran firefighter

Theile is now blind in one eye.

He has difficulty hearing and poor blood circulation causes the muscles of his legs to stiffen. But his memory of that September day remains clear.

Theile later worked as a firefighter for more than 50 years, including as chief of the Springlake Fire Department before it was taken over by the city of Woodland's department.

"Something has always fascinated me about the work," said Theile, who on this day sports a baseball cap from the Yolo County Firefighters Association. "I even remember when they still had horses."

Theile currently serves as historian for the Woodland department's Volunteer Support Branch, which has restored a 1929 hook and ladder. Theile and his fellow volunteers bring it to fairs and other events to teach about fire safety.

The men have also restored a red 1923 American LaFrance pumper truck. It can hold 750 gallons of water.

Theile walks up to the

pumper. "If they had the would have been far worse," he said, referring to the firefighters who battled the blaze.

Theile said he was sneaking a look at the fire when he was with neighbors.

"I got a spanking," he said, smiling.

He also remembers her years later at the General Hospital in Oakland, where cancer had ravaged her. She died in 1968 at age 86.

Theile stood at her head, wearing his fire chief's hat.

"She looked at me and laughing," he said. "She wanted you to know that you to go to fires now."

Reach Peter Hegarty at p. 478-1654.

UC students helped fight the Berkeley fire of 1923

STAFF REPORTS

As fire raced across Berkeley on Sept. 17, 1923, the bells of the Campanile at the University of California campus began ringing.

The school's dean of men rounded up students, hurriedly telling them they were needed to help contain the blaze, which would end up destroying 130 acres of built-up area, including the neighborhoods around Euclid and Hearst avenues and

Rose and Oxford streets.

About a dozen fraternities, sororities and student club houses north of the university were also destroyed.

Among those who joined Cal students in the relief effort was Alta Alice Miner Bates, the nurse for whom Alta Bates Medical Center in Berkeley was named.

Students made up about 1,000 of the 4,000 people left homeless as a result of the disaster.

While no buildings on the campus were destroyed, many of the school's academic staff were burned out. Irreplaceable research collections and manuscripts were lost with their homes.

In the wake of the disaster, the city upgraded its water distribution system, built more fire stations — including replacing one that was lost during the fire — and increased the number of firefighters.

The fire is believed to have

started as a small grass fire more than three miles north of the city limits. It was fueled by low humidity and high winds — the same type of conditions that helped spread the Oakland and Berkeley hills fire in October 1991.

For more information on the 1923 fire and other aspects of Berkeley history, visit the Berkeley Historical Society, 1931 Center St. in Berkeley. Call 510-848-0181.

Schools

FROM PAGE C2

and his staff with a way of studying how students react to this type of trauma. Help was made available to the faculty and staff as well.

Not all children were severely or adversely affected by the disaster.

When Hunger returned to Kaiser there were swarms of cameras and reporters interviewing the children.

"I felt like a movie star," said Hunger. "In a way it was kind of fun. I was young and I wasn't that devastated," she recalled. Since Kaiser is an arts magnet, students channeled their grief and healing energies into art. Segal mentioned that Kaiser students contributed some of the art titles for the memorial mural at the Rockridge BART station.

Hunger recalls doing a lot of art projects including singing songs. One of her fellow students wrote a song that the students sang and which was broadcast on CNN. "They turned it into a real positive thing," said Hunger. "They called (the song) 'The Miracle in the Hills' because the school was still standing."

Gibson, returning to CPS, said that because she never felt endangered, she was never really upset by the event. "Especially," she added, "in light of others losing their lives." She was well

cared for at school. She remembers people bringing in clothing to share with those, like Gibson, who'd lost all of their clothes.

"Having that sense of normalcy was a great comfort," Gibson recalled. "The school gave me my space to adjust." It was a very tight-knit community, she added. "Even months after, during the rebuilding, they were very conscious about what people were going through," she said.

That helped a great deal when Gibson, an active student council member who often spoke in front of the whole school, found herself emotionally overdrawn during an announcement she was making. The school maintained its open-school lunch policy after the fire, which meant students were free to enjoy lunch off-campus.

Despite the desolate surroundings, many students chose to eat on the lawns of the lots of the burned-out homes nearby. This disturbed Gibson, whose family lost their home to the fire. Putting herself in their places, she felt the people who once lived in those homes would feel it was a violation. In her announcement, Gibson asked the students to consider what they were doing. As she spoke, she broke down in tears. The hush that fell over the audience was one of understanding, she said. Gibson said it was more the informal things that made the greatest impact; teach-

ers and others knowing and recognizing the need for grieving and healing.

Dean, who Gibson credits with being "an amazing influence" at CPS, noted that during the week between the fire and the resumption of classes, there were several meetings held. Some took place off campus at a church.

Learning from the past

At CPS, basic first aid training is now a component for students in PE classes. Faculty and staff receive first aid training and emergency preparedness lessons including how to put fires out.

Gibson noted that after the disaster "There definitely was more of an effort to keep the brush back and stuff." That effort is maintained today, especially since, noted Dean, the school is set in a steep canyon with lots of eucalyptus. "We keep the place much safer since that time," said Dean.

The school also keeps a "disaster box" for each student that includes enough food and personal items to keep them comfortable at school for three days. Today the school practices two fire drills each semester.

The safety committee, consisting of Dean, the facilities manager, and a number of faculty and administrators, meets once a week. They've developed a pretty extensive safety plan,

said Dean. The hard copy of this plan was created in such a way that it can be divided and delegated very quickly. "And, of course," added Dean, "we have a telephone tree to communicate with parents."

At Kaiser after the fire, said Segal, "we were much more cautious." They did more fire and earthquake drills. "People became very, very focused." The drills became a reality two years later when a small brush fire across the street from the school caused it to be evacuated. Hunger recalled that experience and said it brought up a lot of stuff. "It was scary, because those feelings were remembered. It kind of freaked us out just because of what had happened (in 1991)," said Hunger.

"We do have more fire drills. And earthquake drills, too," said Carolyn Cusick, the office secretary at Monteria middle school. "We do have a triage unit among the staff," she added. The unit consists of school employees who are Red Cross certified in first aid and CPR.

Ten years later

Almost exactly 10 years after the Oakland hills fire, the events on Sept. 11 that shook our nation and our world had Segal, at least, remembering how important it is to have a plan.

She thought about how the teachers in the schools near the

Risk

FROM PAGE C1

such as French broom, and replacing it with safer native species.

Cities also offer supplemental programs. Last summer, Berkeley's Chipper Program encouraged hills residents to leave vegetation debris on the side of the road for free pickup. And, seasonal goat programs have become more common as a means of curbing overgrowth in the hills.

Oakland Deputy Chief Ron Carter said the potential for a wildfire has not gone away.

"It's almost a forgone conclusion it will burn again," he said.

What's changed is the way professionals handle the threat of a fire. In addition to a new radio system and improved training, the area sees multiple agencies responding together to a report of smoke in the air.

"The philosophy has changed," he said. "We'll (respond first) and figure out whose jurisdiction it is later."

Still, a major blow to the ef-

fort came years ago when Oakland voters did not renew an assessment district that paid for special fire inspections.

Since then, the number of homes getting checked has been limited, leaving the job up to fire departments and volunteers. As a result, more emphasis sits with East Bay fire departments. Currently, they spot-check areas outside homes and have expanded the inspection territory to include the whole hills area.

Pat Cafel, a volunteer who coordinates and teaches classes for the Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams (NEAT) in Kensington and El Cerrito, meets with preparedness groups throughout the Bay Area.

"I've seen cycles of interest (in preparation)," she said, noting that concern may be in a bit of a lull. "Yet every dollar we spend pre-disaster saves hundreds post-disaster."

Because so much depends on individuals, preparedness varies from city to city. According to Cafel, Berkeley has the best success rate among homeowners, while Oakland lags behind.

"Even in the (Oakland) areas

that suffered a huge loss of housing stock, there have been difficulties maintaining vegetation management programs and getting voluntary compliance," she said. "Plus, some new people have bought properties, and there's a continual need to refresh people's memories."

Her goal is to get 10 percent of the population to prepare their homes. And, as she advises people in her training programs, some resources are under their very noses.

In the phone book, for instance, Section B of the white pages has a disaster prevention section that lists everything from how to shut off utilities to emergency supplies people should keep in their homes.

The NEAT program has also broken ground with pilot projects that combine prevention with restoration. Volunteers weed, learn to prevent landslides and

restore native species — a model that's been picked up in parts of Berkeley and Oakland.

Orth added that in the past year noticeable cleanup improvements have taken place in Oakland, particularly in the Panoramic Hill area.

Carter agreed that what's needed now is education.

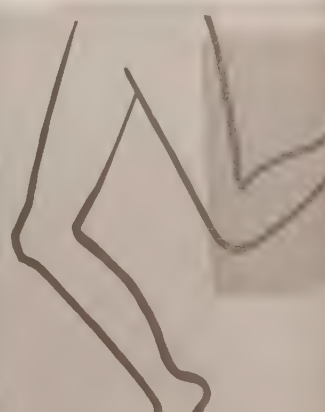
That's why academics met in a three-day Fire Safe Council Forum last week.

From Oct. 11 through 13 at Jack London Square, fire science scholars and others in the field met to analyze the more technical side of things. They looked at environmental documentation, statewide funding, and how-to examples of successful fire prevention programs.

If another wildfire breaks out "we may lose some houses — but the idea is not to have a repeat (of 1991) or anything close to it," Orth said.

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...and the fire continue to
...through the hills, the
...engines and trucks
...needed to protect Rich-

...firefighters, clad in
...gear (jackets, pants,
...hoses and helmets), piled
...the big pie. (Other firefighters
...were up there for longer than we
...were," said Ratelle. "But eight of

...have anything except
...protective clothing
...other."

...the next 12 hours the fire-
...raged up the hill, beginning at
...Terra, struggling to
...from spreading.

...firefighters used ordinary
...garden tools, such as
...and shovels, to battle the
...most of the time they
...used their gloved hands
...back the flames.

...because they didn't have lad-
...the firefighters either
...up each other's shoul-
...scaled chairs that they
...backed on top of one an-
...to reach smoldering em-
...attics and on rooftops.

...the firefighters also knocked
...wooden fences and ripped
...tree branches, trying to
...defensible space between
...in order to slow the
...of the fire.

...tell you what, I was never
...to be a firefighter than
...going in there with these

...Terra.

...said Turner, now a cap-
...were driving a van, and
...had expensive equip-
...All we had was really
...people who were
...to work hard."

...said the magnitude of
...was happening stunned
...went down one block and
...each side of the street there
...right to 10 homes on fire.
...couldn't believe it," he said.

...do you start?"

...in the midst of the mayhem,
...firefighters had the presence
...to save more than a few
...homes' treasured posses-
...such as family pho-
...tos.

...said, "if we can save their
...we will. If we can save
...valuables, we will." We
...were going to lose this
...house, so Luciano went in
...and pulled the good stuff
...things that couldn't be
...said Turner. "That's why
...so highly of him."

...said he put the goods in
...place on the homeowners'
...way. "I put them in the back-
...away from the house, where
...it wouldn't get any smoke
...damage," he said.

...days later, Baker was able to
...fire victim who was grate-
...the firefighter had res-
...special family photograph
...her badly damaged home.
...extremed. It was almost like
...relatives," he said.

...his heroics Baker simply
...just came natural. I know
...things were turned, I'd want
...to do that for me."

...firefighters "ate a lot of
...that October day, said
..."

...think it might have taken
...time off all of our lives here
...this table," said Turner.

...Baker and Murrey remi-
...about the fire while sit-
...the kitchen table in Rich-
...Fire Station 64 a couple of
...ago.

...that's the most smoke I've
...breathed," said Turner.

"There's no doubt about it in my
mind that I might not live as long
because of that experience."

The intensity of the 1991
firestorm is hard for most people
to comprehend, said Ratelle. "You
had to be there and feel the heat
and breathe the smoke to really
appreciate it," he said.

"We were just a little piece of
the big pie. (Other firefighters
were up there for longer than we
were," said Ratelle. "But eight of



PIEDMONT FIREFIGHTER Jim Anderson

us made a difference, and that's
all that counts."

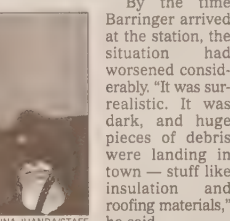
The Richmond firefighters
never submitted pay requests for
their work in the Oakland/Berke-
ley hills fire, nor were they ever
recognized by their department
for their efforts.

Piedmont firefighters' efforts

Off sick for a few days, Pied-
mont Fire Department Capt. Scott
Barringer received a call from the
station early in the day on Oct. 20,
requesting that he come in to
work with a fire in the
Oakland hills. "I figured I'd prob-
ably just sit at the desk and an-
swer phones," he said.

It didn't take Barringer, a lieuten-
ant at the time, long to realize that
this was no ordinary hill fire.

"I was living in Pleasanton at the
time, and I got over the (Highway)
580 ridge and there was this huge
layer of black smoke," he said. "I
had to stop and show ID to the CHP
to get onto (Highway) 13."



PIEDMONT FIRE Capt. Scott Barringer

By the time Barringer arrived
at the station, the situation had
worsened considerably. "It was
surrealistic. It was dark, and huge
pieces of debris were landing in
town — stuff like insulation and
roofing materials," he said.

Barringer and a fire crew hopped
on one of the department's en-
gines. They headed up Moraga
Avenue, cut over Maxwellton
Road, and set up on Broadway
Terrace. "It was three in the af-
ternoon and it was pitch black,"
he said.

The fire was advancing down
the hill quickly, said Barringer,
with homes directly behind the
homes the fire truck was parked
in front of bursting into flames.

"We had people up on
rooftops, and we were able to
keep it from coming down to the
houses where we were," he said.

"A couple of times it got in-
tense," said Barringer. "The wind
would shift, so all the smoke and
heat would blow over. We actu-
ally had to get down on the
ground. Then, behind you, the
telephone pole would catch on
fire or a bush would catch on
fire. So you'd have to turn and
put that out, and then go back to
what you were doing."

Nearby, Piedmont fire-
fighter/paramedic Jim Andersen
was on another Piedmont fire en-
gine, at the intersection of Modoc
and Florence avenues, preparing
to battle an approaching wall of
fire.

"We pulled up to a hydrant
and we stretched our hoses out.
We were waiting for the fire to
burn to us," said Andersen.

In retrospect, Barringer said
that given the conditions on Oct.
20, not much could have been
done to contain the fire. "Given
24 hours warning, I don't know
that anyone could have stopped
it any way other than bulldozing
homes," he said. "It's not that
(firefighters) stopped it, as much
as the wind died down. The wind
played a huge role in that fire."

Both Barringer and Andersen
said they wouldn't have wanted
to miss out on the opportunity to
assist in battling the blaze, and
feel a sense of personal satisfac-
tion in that they were able to help
save homes.

"There's a point on the street
where the fire stopped because
we were there," said Andersen.

Survivors

FROM PAGE C1
lives were forever changed on
Oct. 20, 1991:

Gary and Brenda Kaye

It's hard to understand why bad
things happen to good people like
Brenda and Gary Kaye, who lost
everything they had in the fire: their
dream home on Norfolk Street,
which they had labored so many
years to fix up; the keepsakes of a
lifetime; and, worst of all, their
beloved springer spaniel, Shana.

They didn't know at first what
had happened to her. Frantically,
they posted fliers all over Rockridge
asking, "Have you seen Shana?"

But a week later, when the re-
mains of what had been their home
were cleared away, they found her.
She had been crushed underneath
a collapsing wall.

The blow was doubly hard for
them, because Brenda was just
getting over a miscarriage she had
suffered a few months before.

But the first thing she said
when this reporter called to in-
terview her was, "How are you?
Did you manage to escape?"

The Kayes moved to a fur-
nished rented house in Lafayette
while their home on Norfolk was
rebuilt. Nothing in it belonged to
them, except for a sign that
Brenda hung in the powder room
reading, "So it isn't home sweet
home! Learn to adjust!"

But good people also have good
things happen to them, too. After
their story appeared in the paper,
a reader sent them a springer
spaniel puppy that had been re-
scued from the pound just hours
before it was due to be killed. They
named the little guy Phoenix.

The next summer their first
child was born, a bright, beauti-
ful boy they named Devin Gar-
rett Kaye.

"He was conceived on
Thanksgiving Day, just a few
weeks after the fire," says
Brenda. "At the time, we didn't
think we had much to be thank-
ful for. Little did we know!"

Devin was followed five years
later by twins, son Justin and
daughter Morgan. "They all came
after the fire, but Devin has
heard so many stories about
Shana, he thinks he remembers
her," says Brenda.

Phoenix is no longer living with
them. When the twins came, it be-
came apparent that he just wasn't
going to get the attention he de-
served. So they gave him to a first-
grade teacher in Berkeley, who
takes him to class with her every
day. There he gets all the love and
attention any dog could ever want.

But nothing can ease the pain
of what was lost. "We've had so
many blessings," says Gary, speak-
ing for many other fire victims.
"Phoenix, the kids, the kind-
ness of friends. But that aside, if
you asked me whether I'd rather
be back at Oct. 19, 1991, I'd an-
swer, 'In a heartbeat!'"

Jim and Matthew Cord

Jim Cord was on the roof of
his house in west Berkeley,
watching the inferno march in-
exorably down the hill, devour-
ing house after house as it went.
Then the phone rang. It was his
20-year-old son, Matt.

"Hiya, Dad!" said Matt. "Bran-
don and I have been up in the hills
for the last two hours fighting to
save this house. We just discovered
the phone works, so I thought
I'd call and tell you where I am."
Matt and his friend, Brandon
Gatto, had been taking pictures on
Tunnel Road when the fire struck,
with only one beleaguered fire en-
gine in the whole area.

"Hey!" Matt yelled. "You guys
need any help?"

"Yeah," said Lt. Brian Corri-
gan of Engine Company No. 3.
"But we can't be responsible for
you. If you want to help, you'll



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ROBERT AND EVA RIGNEY stand with the two classic Mercedes-Benz cars that Robert managed to save.

have to do it at your own risk."
"Sure!" said the boys, who
knew a good adventure when
they saw one.

It took all afternoon, but they
finally managed to save that
house. By the time Matt got home
late that night, his dad didn't
know whether to kiss him or cry.

"Kids think they're immortal at
that age," says Jim. "It's the par-
ents who have to worry. He did the
same thing two years earlier, when
the earthquake struck; he was one
of the first people down at the Cy-
press Structure, pulling people out
of the rubble. It drives me crazy,
but by now I've gotten used to the
idea that he wouldn't be Matt if he
didn't do things like that."

It was a life-altering experi-
ence for Matt. Before Oct. 20, he
was just another young man try-
ing to figure out what to do with
his life. After Oct. 20, he knew:
He had to be a firefighter.

For the next two and a half
years he worked with a fire crew
in Davis. Then he came back to
Berkeley to enroll in the fire-
fighters' training program.

He scored near the top on
every exam, and he did extremely
well in the interviews. But he didn't
fit the right demographic pro-
file, and two years later he was
still on the outside looking in.

Finally, he said to himself,
"This is fun, but I've got to get a
real job." Reluctantly, he gave up
his dream and entered the dot-
com world, where he worked as
an account manager, first at Ask
Jeeves and more recently at re-
cently at BEA Systems.

But dreams die hard, and last
month he reversed direction and
took the firefighters' exam in San
Francisco. "I'm 29 years old," he
explains. "It's now or never. I could
n't live with myself if I didn't give
it one last try."

Yves and Dawn Mottler

In addition to the 2,500 home-
owners who were burned out, there
were thousands more who were
renters. They don't get the pub-
licity, but they lost everything, too.

Two of them were Yves Mot-
tier, the manager of cardiology ser-
vices at Alta Bates Hospital, and
his wife, Dawn, a registered nurse
in the critical care unit. They were
having lunch together at a restau-
rant in south Berkeley when they
got word that their rented home
on Grand View Drive was in dan-
ger. But it wasn't their possessions
they were worried about.

"We looked at each other and
thought the same thing," says
Dawn. "Oh no! The cats are
locked inside!"

They rushed into the fire area,
using old hiking trails to elude the
police roadblocks. His clothes and
skin ripped by thorns, Yves made it
to his house through the underbrush,
where seven cats were trapped.

"I picked up the barbecue and
hurled it with all my might through
the front window," he says. "I re-
member thinking at the time, 'This
better turn out to be a real emer-
gency, because otherwise the land-
lord is going to be really angry!'"

"The cats were too spooked
to pick up, so I rushed through
the house, opening all the doors
and windows, to give them a
fighting chance. Then the smoke

became too much, and I had to
get out myself."

Miraculously, four cats some-
how managed to survive. But three
— Alexander, Ichabod and Isaac
— were missing. For months af-
terward, Yves and Dawn went
back at least twice a week to look
for them, trying to keep hope alive
in their hearts. "We even had new
name tags made up for them," says
Dawn. But they were never found.

The Mottiers moved to Orinda,
along with two of the surviving
cats — the other two survivors
died a few months after the fire
— plus six newcomers, also fire
survivors that they met while
searching the animal shelters for
Alexander, Ichabod and Isaac.

"The best part of this terrible
experience was our friends," says
Yves. "Our co-workers donated
clothes, and our vet (Gerry Dzen-
dell of Orinda Veterinary Clinic)
refused to take my money when-
ever he treated one of the cats."

The Mottiers never moved
back to Oakland. They bought a
home in Orinda, which they share
with assorted cats, guinea pigs, a
bunny and a 4-month-old puppy
who already weighs 55 pounds.

And, best of all, with two pre-
cocious kids: son Andre Michel,
whom they describe as "8 going
on 50," and daughter Devin, "5
going on 17, with major attitude."

Dawn still works in the ICU at Alta
Bates; Yves is now a high-tech wiz
for a medical company in Sunnyvale.

"We lost everything except
those four cats," says Dawn.
"Family photos, mementos, so
many things that can never be
replaced. It was the worst thing
I ever lived through — that is, un-
til last month. When you think
of what happened in New York,
it makes what happened to us
seem pretty insignificant."

Robert and Eva Rigney

Eva Rigney, the wife of Berke-
ley attorney Robert Rigney, was
out of town that day. So when the
fire reached their home on Grand
View, he had to face this
dilemma: Which Mercedes-Benz
of the two classic cars in his
garage should he save?

Answer: He saved them both.

"I leaptfrogged them," says
Robert, who was in his 70s at the
time. "First, I drove mine 200 feet,
then I ran back up the hill and
drove hers 200 feet past mine,
then I ran back up and drove mine
200 feet past hers, and so on and
so on all the way down the hill."

But first, he took off his good
suit "so it wouldn't get dirty" and
put on his oldest clothes. He care-
fully folded the suit and left it on
his bed, along with his wallet, his
credit cards, and all his cash.
They all went up in flames with
the rest of the house, of course.

Meanwhile, Eva was flying back
from Puerto Villarta that night.

"I arrived with a suitcase full
of bikinis, which is all I had in
the world, although I didn't know
it yet," she says. "None of us on
the plane had heard about the
fire. Bob met me at the gate,
looking like a bum."

He told her, "I have good news
and bad news. First, the good
news. Remember the pole that
was blocking the view from our
picture window? Well, it's gone."

Then he told her the bad news.
"The only time I got upset was
when he told me about saving the
cars," she says. "I was so mad at him
for risking his life. I told him, 'You
could have gotten yourself killed!'"

"But now I'm glad he did it."

My car was a present from my
mother, who died a few months
after the fire. All our family pho-
tos were destroyed in the fire. So
it's my only link to her."

This was actually the third
time Eva Rigney was burned out
in a firestorm. The first two were
during World War II bombing
raids, when she was a young girl
growing up in Germany.

"It all came back to me when
Bob drove me to see where our
home had been," she says. "For
a moment, I thought I was back
in 1945."

The Rigneys moved into a ho-
tel at Jack London Square for the
first few months, then to a rented
apartment while they rebuilt.

"Our friends were wonderful,"
says Robert. "They invited us for
dinner so many times after the
fire, we both gained 20 pounds."

When they moved into their
new home, it looked like the old
one from the outside. But on the
inside, it's an art deco dream:
monumental multi-story ceilings;
a massive, three-story fireplace
made from a single block of mar-
ble; and a panoramic picture win-
dow in the living room with a
breathtaking view of the bay.

"The best part about moving
back was watching our neighbors
filter back over the next weeks
and months," says Bob. "We had
all been scattered to the four
winds. Some were living in Berke-
ley and Emeryville, others were
in Contra Costa County. So it was
a real thrill when everyone started
moving back into the neighbor-
hood again. We literally greeted
each other with open arms."

"People in the neighborhood
weren't very close before the
fire," adds Eva. "But now we're
really, really close — at least,
those of us who lived here before
the fire. The newcomers haven't
really joined in. It's like there are
two groups in the neighborhood
now: those who went through the
fire and those who didn't."

And the cars?

"Still going great!" says
Robert. "They both have more
than 250,000 miles on them, with
no signs of quitting."

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Fire

FROM PAGE C1

still cover the hillsides, blasted flaming leaves and splinters like exploding cannons.

Firefighters pounced, dousing flame-spewing brush as it charred several acres just up from the Parkwood Apartments west of the Caldecott Tunnel.

Out of precaution and procedure, workers stayed late into the night, pushing their rakes and shovels into smoldering earth to snub out hot spots. They left only to return the next morning for equipment abandoned while fighting the previous day's blaze.

But Saturday's light breezes were replaced by the seething, heated gusts of a new day. Winds plowed in from the east and down the western face of the Oakland hills—a weather anomaly later blamed for spawning fire-breathing whirlwinds that spit flaming embers in every direction.

"The weather conditions were just right," said Oakland Battalion Chief James Williams, adding that the fire roared like an ignited matchbook. "The wind blew with great intensity and speed."

Firefighters were overwhelmed from the beginning Sunday as the relatively restrained grass fire of the day before puffed up into a five-alarm inferno. Flames flooded the box canyon. White-hot prongs pierced dense vegetation and topped trees, catapulting fire several miles downhill in just 15 minutes.

"How are we doing on air support?" former Assistant Chief Don Matthews asked a dispatcher as the fire inhaled the 250 Parkwood units. "The only way we're going to get a head on this is with massive air support."

The problems

But the first helicopter did not come for more than an hour. Miscommunication or the lack of communication between Matthews, Oakland dispatchers and other



THE STAGING AREA for emergency personnel was originally set up on the west side of Highway 24. But as the fire worked its way down the hill, firefighters had to search out a new location.

scattered about in the fury of nature.

"It became an act of God—a natural disaster," Williams said.

Their homes lost, panicked residents abandoned stalled cars, their arms loaded down with photos, family heirlooms and other near-and-dear items.

The vehicles became deadly corks in roads as narrow as 12 feet. Fire rigs could not move up hills; residents could not come down. Some people stumbled from the flames barely alive; 25 people, in all, did not make it out.

"Losing the lives and seeing the sadness in the faces of the family members, the overall community, was just a very, very devastating experience," Harris said.

reporters and thousands left homeless stumbled through a blackened forest of decimation.

Many vowed to rebuild; other homeowners promised to sell. Politicians pledged support and changes. Like the proverbial phoenix, Oakland, they said, would rise from the ashes.

Moving on meant cleaning up. Towering chimneys—reduced and blackened by 2,000-degree flames—had to come down. Power had to be brought back up. Steel husks of cars had to be hauled away and scrapped.

As workers scraped the landscape, officials plowed through legislation, pounded out a new tax district and bonded public support for \$50 million for emergency readiness.

Wooden roofs, which had topped many homes in Oakland's forested hills, were outlawed. They caught the embers and much of the blame for destruction of 3,276 homes.

By law, hillside homes today are tucked beneath metal roofs or composition shingles.

Hills homeowners also rallied behind a \$75 annual charge to fund brush-clearing teams of city workers, promising to raise nearly \$2 million a year to thin vegetation. Approved in 1992, the measure was ditched in 1995.

The city's Vegetation Management Unit now works out of the Fire Services Agency. City inspectors and fire officials eye properties, issue warnings, hand out tickets and finally bills for brush clearing to landowners who ignore warnings.

"I think we play a very crucial role," said Leroy Griffin, Oakland's assistant fire marshal, who oversees the unit. "Clearing vegetation slows it up, lessening the fire so we can react, put enough resources on it and put it out."

But with memories still fresh, some area residents believe much more could be done. Joe Whitehouse, who helped battle the 1991 fire with a garden hose, and whose house survived, said he worries about another outbreak.

"What they're doing here is helpful, but there are people who would like to see them remove more trees," he said, pointing to a city-contracted crew clearing brush last month on Grizzly Peak Boulevard. "Eucalyptus are like cockroaches: They keep coming back."

Horror stories in the days and weeks following the blaze were stories of victims sucked into the flames after being trapped on the narrow asphalt strip of Charing Cross Road. Eight people—a third of the total fatalities—lost their lives on the 12-foot-wide street.

While Charing Cross was widened, a trip into the hills 10 years later still follows the skinny, winding paths that proved deadly for some that October day. Cars and trucks park on either side of already narrow roads, making passing a slow, precarious and, in some cases, nearly impossible task.

There are tighter parking restrictions and some broadened roads, said Amit Kothari, transportation services manager for Oakland's Public Works Department. Better signs, guardrails and road markings and improved communication between city agencies have helped as well.

"It does work to a certain extent," he said. "But enforcement is not available late in the evening."

The most change came to the fire department.

An 800-megahertz radio system, which allows many rescuers to talk over just a few channels,

replaced outdated equipment that bogged down when firefighters from dozens of agencies flooded Oakland.

Oakland is now using automated weather stations and the Weather Information Management System, which allows better reading of temperature, humidity levels and other climate indicators.

There has been better training in attacking wildland blazes. Additionally, a new fire station was built in the hills, another previously closed firehouse was re-

opened and smoke patrols have increased.

One of the most significant changes occurred in the state Assembly. While firefighters from around the Bay Area rushed to help fight the blaze that ultimately caused more than \$1.5 billion in damage, they could not fit their hoses to hydrants.

State legislators created a uniform standard for fire-hydrant fittings, allowing any department to pump water from any Cali-



IN THE AFTERMATH of the fire, Jonathan Ferguson searches through what remains of the home of David and Ruth Williams.



No victims, just fire survivors in the Oakland hills

THE FIRESTORM OF 1991 destroyed homes, but it couldn't destroy the spirit of the residents of the Oakland hills. Once clean-up of the area was complete, residents returned to their neighborhoods. They refused to think of themselves as fire survivors. And they survived to rebuild their neighborhoods, like this one in the Hiller Highland area, rose out of the ashes and residents returned to the hills. But the threat of fire still remains with grassy areas like this now covering the hillsides. Residents know that they must be prepared and vigilant to avoid a repeat of the disaster.



AIR SUPPORT was critical in fighting the blaze, but the first helicopters did not arrive until an hour after they were called.

"How are we doing on air support? The only way we're going to get a head on this is with massive air support."

— Former Assistant Chief Don Matthews

agencies cost crucial minutes, critics later contended. It was one of many problems fire officials, residents and reports would later blame to explain the destruction.

As word and sight of the fire blanketed the Bay Area, crews from nearly every neighboring city streamed onto the hills' narrow roads. Radio channels crack-

The recovery

Three days after a windswept spark chiseled a new face on the Oakland and Berkeley hills, exhausted firefighters gained the upper hand.

Ground Zero became a walking tour of a new Oakland as politicians, insurance adjusters,



RESIDENTS SOAKED their rooftops in an attempt to save their homes. For many, their efforts were futile.

"The weather conditions were just right. The wind blew with great intensity and speed."

California roadside. "We alone re-

drants through Williams said. Most of the lines that cross when the state with later the critical systems as The city and local \$48 million on

A firehouse a price to pay over the years officials to re before they

Even with Williams said, ban blazes is a city has been "lucky" decade, he said times just as they were wind-enraged sumed Oakland

But people lost, Williams about destruction sets in, potentially the hell that descended land that day

"You can't win Williams said. The does exist. But if it again, we can it causes and the claim."

Reach Brian Anderson at 925-847-2184 or brian@times.com.



STAIRS LEAD to a house longer standing, and a statue stands guard over neighborhood that once

Auto Plus

ing supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, October 19, 2001

Section D

Generation Gap: Dodge Stratus, reliable but not hot-rod [D4]

VERN PARKER

25 Maxwell becomes family heirloom

In the 20th century Maxwell automobiles were strong competitors. In 1910, only Ford and Buick exceeded Maxwell's sales of 20,500.

Maxwell's fortunes took a turn for the worse after World War I and came in 1925. One of the 1925 Maxwells produced was a blue coupe with black fenders.

Arthur Morton Waddell paid \$350 for the 2,340-pound Maxwell and drove the three-speed car over to his son Ed, who didn't know how to drive. So he taught him. The war-time car covered any distance for the initial 90 days after purchase with the caveat that any repairs had to be done at the Maxwell factory in Detroit.

In the early 1930s, Waddell passed the car over to his son Ed, who didn't know how to drive. So he taught him. The war-time car covered any distance for the initial 90 days after purchase with the caveat that any repairs had to be done at the Maxwell factory in Detroit.

Within a decade, the Maxwell received a \$60 coat of dark blue paint. The crowned fenders were changed back into a semblance of the original shape, they were repainted black.

Through the original brightwork and chrome plate, the radiator shell was completed in 1973 for a total of \$1,500.

See CLASSIC, Page D2



NEW SUZUKI VITARA JLX 4X4 is shy on amenities, but offers off-road sturdiness and quiet highway ride. It's also the most affordable in Suzuki's SUV line.

Vitara 4x4 JLX: one of several Suzuki SUV options

The Suzuki Vitara is available with three or five doors, four or two-wheel drive, long wheelbase or short, open or convertible.

One trim level is offered for all closed body styles: JLS, with two-wheel drive running gear, and JLX four-wheel drive version we test this week.

Outside: The Vitara we evaluated was about as standard as possible. It came with 16-inch steel wheels, black wall tires and no fender flares. This configuration represents a good number of the Vitaras actually sold, however, as it is

the most affordable version.

The current Vitara is the logical successor to the now-departed Sidekick, which enjoyed success here for many years. The newer look of Vitara, with its rounded shapes that look more modern, is a smart-looking SUV that doesn't take styling chances.

For those wishing to outfit a Vitara with more visual goodies, the Grand Vitara is the next step upward in Suzuki's line.

A stiff stamped-steel body gives a stiff shell to resist the twisting and bending forces of the rugged off-

TOM HAGIN

Solo Road Test

road, yet still delivers a quiet ride on the highway.

Inside: The interior layout is as simple as its exterior design. Easy-to-use switch-gear is laid out well, with sliding controls and rocker switches that are all within an arm's reach.

And just like most mini-SUVs, Vitara isn't going to swallow the whole soccer team with room left

for gear. Rather, there is just enough room inside for a family of four, with a modest amount of room behind the rear seat for cargo. Head, shoulder and legroom is ample for a SUV of this caliber.

Suzuki also offers the Grand Vitara XL-7, which offers a stretched body with third-row seating and more cargo space. Seating is as comfortable as possible, with durable cloth upholstery and firm padding that should stand up to the test of time.

Standard features include remote keyless entry, air conditioning, power

windows, door locks and outside mirrors, an AM/FM/CD stereo, tilt steering and a tachometer.

On the Road: Power comes from a 2.0-liter inline four-cylinder engine. It uses dual overhead cams, four valves per cylinder and sequential multi-port fuel injection to deliver a healthy 127 horsepower and 134 pound-feet of torque.

Prior to 2002, this was the optional power choice for Vitara, but the entry-level JS and JX models, with their underpowered engines,

See SOLO, Page D2

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Classic

FROM PAGE D1

tal of \$72. Much of the nickelplating — such as the headlight and cow-light rims which share the same details — survives to this day.

The walnut door handles are capped on each end with nickel. Four new 5.77 x 30-inch tires and inner tubes were acquired for \$247 in 1980.

The side-mounted spare tire in the left front fender was not replaced. It remains secured there by a sextet of leather straps.

In 1990, the speedometer/odometer/trip meter ceased to function and was repaired. At that time the odometer was reset to zero.

The current actual mileage is a shade more than 35,000 miles — far less than 500 miles a year for the last 76 years.

During the autumn of 2000, Schaeffer decided 48 years of ownership was sufficient and sought a new owner. Keeping the car in the family was desirable, but none of the relatives in Oregon showed any interest.

Schaeffer wrote to Jim Waddell in Delaware who expressed no interest in the Maxwell. He did, however, mention the vehicle to his

brother Frank, in Charlotte Hall, Md. This branch of the family tree was indeed interested in the car. Schaeffer assured Frank it was a running car.

After a deal was struck, the title changed hands in October 2000. The Maxwell, which crossed the continent via the closed trailer of a car-moving company, was delivered to Waddell's doorstep.

Knowing that his grandfather and father also had driven the car was an added bonus.

Now that he had the Maxwell, Waddell decided it would be neat to drive it to his daughter Bonnie's wedding.

Waddell located a Wichita, Kan., man who owns several Maxwells. He offered his expertise and spare manifolds, since the original manifolds were beyond repair.

With new wiring and spark plugs, the car seemed ready to roll. Instead, Waddell lamented, "It doesn't run at all."

After much trial and error he found the 185-cubic-inch, four-cylinder engine, rated at 21-horsepower, was wired backwards. Once Waddell solved one problem another



THIS 1925 Maxwell was purchased new and has remained in the same ownership most recently to be transported across country from Oregon to Maryland. It still has the spare tire attached by leather straps to the side fender. The fenders are an afterthought addition.

would take its place.

A week and a half before his daughter's wedding, Waddell got the Maxwell running good enough for a trial run to the church and back home.

When the wedding day arrived, he got it to the church for pictures

of his daughter in the car making five generations of Waddells that have been in the car.

Although Waddell got it to the church on time, it wasn't running correctly. Since then he has had more time to sort out the details of owning a Maxwell.

For instance, he explains that bumpers were optional, pointing out the aftermarket name on the front bumper. Judging from the dents in the lead-lined gasoline tank, a rear bumper might have been a good investment.

Each success is a little triumph

Waddell shares with father who bought years ago

If you have a vehicle to "Classic Car" to Motor Matters, 4 Wilmington, DE 19804, its merits

Auto mags fall into different categories

PACHECO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Being the eclectic automotive journalist that I am, I need two things; a broad-based automotive library and a vivid imagination.

The first item is obvious. To write on a subject as convoluted and complex as the multi-faceted automobile world, a writer has to have an overabundance of information at his or her fingertips, even if the fingertips are just used to dial-up a source of information on a subject.

The second necessity, a good imagination, is handy if there are no hard facts to fill in the gaps.

Over the years, I've come to categorize my personal automotive magazine library into several divisions each of which ostensibly fits a particular type of feature. Keeping them divided is something of a chore since they sometimes overlap in content and it helps to be able to remember small unrelated bits of information that may help in a search.

But whether it's on a personal computer or on cards in dozens of shoe boxes, a useful automotive magazine library has to be indexed somehow and these are the sections I've set up over the past three decades:

Magazines about new car stuff: Although they've become more and more tied to their advertisers over the years, there's still a lot of good information to be found in the pages of what is commonly referred to in the business as buff magazines.

Motor Trend, Car and Driver, Road & Track, AutoWeek and the newcomer Auto World have lots of useful stuff on new vehicles although they're not very critical.

Some of them have interesting technical information and even a few travel stories although these are



BOB MACIN

usually funded by the makers of the vehicles the writers are traveling in.

Automobile magazine fits in this category, too, but it's a bit erudite to be lumped in with the regular guy magazines.

Magazines about old car stuff: Being an old guy, current magazines about old cars are my favorites although the category is a bit thin. First among them is Special Interest Auto although it's evolved from being funky ("How to cast your own Triumph trunk hinges") to being strictly entertaining and educational.

It's been published for more than 30 years and has been going progressively upscale. Thankfully, however, it hasn't fallen into the very profitable trap of reviewing new cars.

Automobile Quarterly is also in this category although it's hardcover and only comes out every four months. Each of its stories is well written, researched in-depth and accompanied by luscious color photos. It's even older than Special Interest Auto and my first editions are dated 1962.

Old car magazines: By old I mean issues of magazines that were published way back when.

I have dozens of them and although some of their covers are tattered and turning to dust, I still refer to such gems as Auto Age of April 1953, Your Car of October

1953 and Motorsport of June 1956 for historical data of that era.

I also have old issues of Motor Trend and Road & Track that go back to the '40s in some cases but they're very different from their modern namesakes.

Industry periodicals: Although most auto enthusiasts turn a blind eye to it, there is a business side of the automobile world and it often involves its human aspects. Automotive News is considered the bible of the industry.

It comes out weekly in periodical form and I keep issues for only a year because they're bulky and take up a lot of space, and any news about the fast-moving car industry that's more than a year old falls in the realm of ancient history.

It includes things like which CEO is getting the boot in a hostile takeover, what company has won or lost a court case and as an aside, what new cars or trucks are on their way to showrooms.

The other business side of the business is the retailing and wholesaling of vehicle parts. It's a multi-billion dollar industry worldwide and has its own world of corporate takeovers, law suits and power struggles.

I get Aftermarket Business and Automotive Marketing, both of which cater to the retail auto parts industry and the wholesalers who sell to independent and factory-captive retail facilities.

Of particular interest to me are their stories that have to do with in-depth analysis of market trends and surveys of consumer attitudes about the repair business.

Although I do get lots of journalistically useful information from their pages, I guess I like these

Solo

FROM PAGE D1

are gone. Available torque comes on at 3000 rpm, so off-line acceleration is good and off-road brawn is ample.

A five-speed manual transmission is standard equipment, while a four-speed automatic is optional.

It's a very capable off-roader, and our tester's four-wheel drive system is a part-time unit that can be engaged on-the-fly at speeds below 62 mph, or used in a low range for extra power in rough terrain.

Unfortunately, this system cannot be used in 4WD mode on pavement, like so many of its competitors, but getting out of the vehicle to "lock-in" the front differential hubs is unnecessary because they are automatic.

Behind the Wheel: Vitara rides on a truck-like ladder frame. This rugged design, along with thick steel cross members, provide a solid foundation on which to mount the separate body.

Also, Suzuki adds thick metal to the joints between the side rails and suspension mounting points.

Specially-tuned rubber body

mounts, along with extensive use of asphalt sheeting and foam insulation, contribute heavily in reducing noise, vibration and harshness.

There is nothing too fancy about Vitara's underpinnings.

The front suspension is a MacPherson strut layout, while the five-link rear suspension utilizes coil springs to support the solid rear axle. The handling is relatively nimble, though the grip of the standard tires

is lost in heavier corners.

The power rack-and-pinion steering system gives a good road feel and smooth front disc/rear drum well in road tests.

The Vitara is a rugged that makes no pretense of being a sedan-based "cute-ute."

Safety: Dual airbags, running headlamps and side door beams are standard.

SUZUKI VITARA JLX 4X4

Suggested Retail
Price as Tested
Engine Type
Engine Size
Horsepower
Torque
Transmission
Curb Weight
Fuel Capacity
Tires
Brakes
Train
Vehicle Type
Mileage
Maximum Towing

DOHC 16-valve 2.0 Liter 141
122 cu ft
127 @ 6,000
134 @ 3,000
Four-speed auto
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Pontiac Trans Am for 2002 isn't the same old pony car of the 1970s

BRENDAN/MIKELE HAGIN
Gender Gap

publicity. And the engines themselves were much larger.

The biggest was 455 cubic inches. But the 350 cubic-inch engine in our test Trans Am is not exactly a slouch. It puts out 325 horsepower and 350 pound/feet of torque but it relies on the same antiquated technology that was used in the Pontiacs of three decades ago.

However, there have been lots of changes. The heads and block are aluminum now and Trans Ams aren't built with four-speed stick-shifts anymore. And that's probably a good thing.

Even back then it was hard to deal with a clutch, a low first gear and lots of horsepower if you were driving in commuter traffic.

The rear end on the new version is still a solid unit but now it's carried on coil springs and the rear end suspension geometry is more carefully tuned.

Mikele: I didn't do well in geometry in high-school, so I'll take your word for it.

But I do know something about design, and the profile and general overall line of the Firebird are very

flowing, with the low nose and high tail portraying a current performance image.

With its hood bulge, covered headlights and nostril-like air intakes between them, the car has an almost sinister look up front but its big round low-mounted fog lamps tend to soften it up a bit.

The 17-inch performance tires kind of add to this overall perception of power.

Fortunately, I'm fairly tall for a woman but a shorter person is going to feel "submerged" in the front seats of this Trans Am. Its belt line is very high and its just about even with the tops of the seats.

Reaching the controls is going to be a bit of a hassle for smaller people, too. The Firebird Trans Am was designed more for style than convenience and even the view out the back is tough, especially when the top is up.

Brendan: I don't think many female engineers had input into the Firebird Trans Am because it's a typical macho-wagon.

It rides hard and corners like it's on rails, although the rear end has a tendency to jump around a bit when the car is tossed into a turn that's not too smooth.

Our car had an automatic four-speed but there's a six-speed man-



LA MOTORSPORTS

WHILE a convertible is fun to drive, it's not very practical. New Pontiac Trans Am version is still a macho car despite the toning down of its power

ual transmission available. I can't imagine a situation where it would be very useful except for bragging rights.

A better choice would be the standard Firebird convertible with the V-6 engine and an automatic transmission with traction control. It has the same flashy lines as the Trans Am but it would be lots easier to drive around town.

I'm not too crazy about convertibles anyway, so next time we get a Firebird to evaluate, let's ask for the milder model with a hard top. With the top down on hot days, the leather upholstery is hot on your legs and after it sits in the sun for a while, it's even hard to hold onto the broiling steering wheel.

Mikele: The more we test these fancy hot-rods, the more impressed I am with how grown-up you're becoming.

Brendan: Thanks for the compliment — I think

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Engine Type	OHV 16-valve 5.7-liter V-8 w/SMPI*
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Horsepower	325 @ 5,200 rpm
Torque	350 @ 4,000 rpm
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Tires	(F/R) P275/40ZR17 speed rated
Brakes	(F/R) Disc (ABS)/disc (ABS)
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Vehicle Type	Four-passenger/two-door
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Dodge Stratus SE built for reliability rather than speed

AD HOCO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Bob: Back in the '60s, the Dodge Dart had a slant-six engine that had just enough power to keep up with traffic, carry five people and get good fuel economy while doing it.

It was almost bullet-proof and it developed an enthusiastic following that exists to this day.

Matt: The new Dodge Stratus fits into these parameters, Dad, especially when it's fitted with the slick 2.4-liter four-banger engine.

This powerplant is lots more up-to-date than the old slant-six, of course, but it's economical and reliable, too.

It's all-aluminum with a fairly sophisticated twin overhead cam system that operates four valves per cylinder. Unfortunately it doesn't carry a high-tech variable valve timing system which would make it develop more power but it would add to the price of our SE version.

It puts out a respectable 150 horsepower and 167 pound-feet of torque which indicates that it's tuned for pulling power rather than speed. It's not nearly as popular as the V-6 that's also available in the Stratus but it's probably a better buy and lots better suited for buyers who buy with their heads rather than with their perceptions of what's in.

According to the EPA specs, it gets 21 miles per gallon around town and 30 on the highway but this last number is only available to feather-foot drivers who do a lot of downhill driving.

Bob: When your brother Ben and his wife tried out the Stratus SE last year, it had a V-6 and an automatic transmission and it went along very well.

Dodge has a five-speed manual transmission in its parts bin but it's reserved as standard equipment for the hot-rod V-6 R/T model with a four-speed automatic as an option.

If the buyers of an automatic-equipped R/T feel the need to revert to type on occasion, they can opt for an automatic/stick-shift system that lets them shift up and

MATT AND BOB HAGIN Generation Gap

down without having to bother with a clutch but then go back to drive if they want.

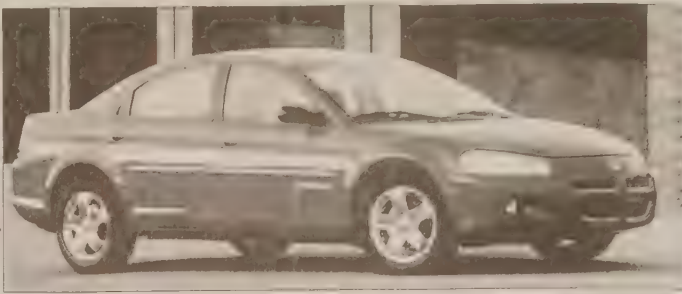
The automatic is standard equipment in our SE but you can't get it with the automatic/stick-shift device.

I'd guess that a stick-shift Stratus sedan is going to be a rarity since only a diehard performance enthusiast would go for one that has to do double-duty as a daily driver by the rest of the family.

Having to drive a stick-shift around the hills of San Francisco would be a chore if you were teaching the new driver in the family how to drive.

Matt: The chassis of all the versions of the new Stratus are the same but there are differences between the suspension settings.

Our entry-level model has what Dodge labels normal duty while the next up ES has sport-tuned suspension with a sway bar up front. The R/T has performance suspension but the Dodge press kit doesn't



explain what the differences are.

Last year all the Stratus versions were fitted with disc brakes all around including the bottom-feeder SE.

They can all be had with an anti-skid brake system and although it adds a few bucks to the cost of the car, it's a handy option if the driver gets in a position where it's really needed. At that point, it would be worth almost any price.

Bob: The handling of our Stratus SE is pretty much standard fare for a car that's designed for utilitarian family use and in corporate lease fleets or in rental fleets.

The relatively narrow 15-inch tires all complain loudly when they're pushed into a fast sweeper and there's the expected pronounced front-end push on tight turns.

The interior is comfortable enough but it's lacking fancy stuff like memory chips

seat positions and a navigation system.

The basic SE doesn't even as an option but it's a favorite with me because of my original '64 slant-six Dodge Dart.

Matt: I vaguely remember and as I recall, it was turned it over to my brother.

DODGE STRATUS SE

Suggested Retail Price as Tested	\$18,410
Engine Type	DOHC 16-valve 2.4-liter I4 w/SMFI*
Torque	167 at 4,000 rpm
Horsepower	150 @ 5,200 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Curb Weight	3,200 pounds
Fuel Capacity	16.3 gallons
Wheelbase	108 inches
Tires	(F/R) 205/65R15 all-season
Brakes	(F/R) Disc (ABS)/Disc (ABS)
Drive Train	Front-engine/front-wheel-drive
Vehicle Type	Five-passenger/four-door
Mileage	City/highway 21/26
0-60 mph	11.7 seconds

*Sequential multi-port fuel injection

BOB HAGIN Questions & Answers

Buick dealer can't find cause of smell

PACHCO AUTOMOTIVE NEWS SERVICE

Q: I have a 1999 Buick Century Limited with 24,000 miles on it. There is a bad oil burning smell but we cannot find the cause. I have had it to the dealership several times and they agree that there is a smell but they cannot find the cause.

There are no oil leaks. With only 12,000 miles left on the warranty I want to get this taken care of.

N.A. Walnut Creek, Calif.

A: The first thing to do is to get everything documented. I assume that every time you took your Century into the shop, you had repair orders written up that specified that there was a burnt-oil smell in the car, that the technicians were aware of it and actually smelled the smell, and that they couldn't find the source of the problem.

If you don't have these repair orders in your possession, get copies of them from the dealer's service files.

The next step would be to inform the owner of the place about your problem and see if he or she can help. Have your dealer's shop request a personal inspection by a factory field representative to verify the problem and get a copy of the report for your own files.

Since the smell may be caused by something that could catch fire, report the problem to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) at 888-327-4236 or at www.nhtsa.dot.gov.

Your mechanics might give your Century one more going-over with an infrared analyzer. It's a sniffing device that's used in tailpipe emissions testing and can pick up hydrocarbon gases that our noses can't detect.

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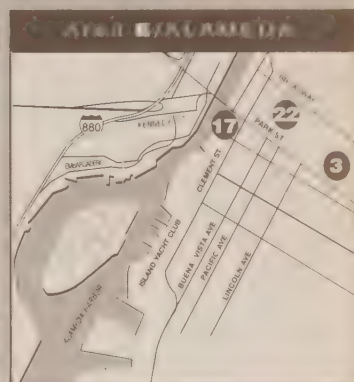
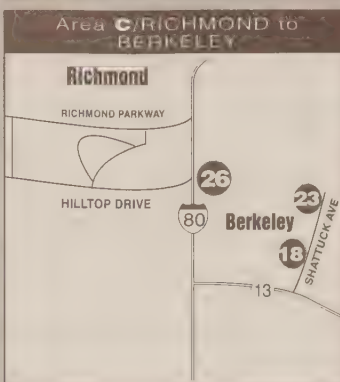
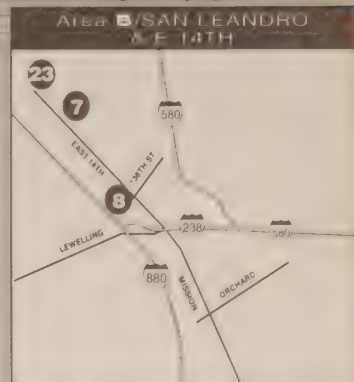
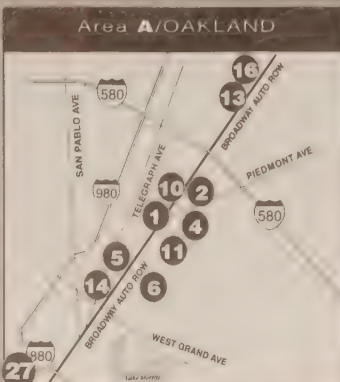
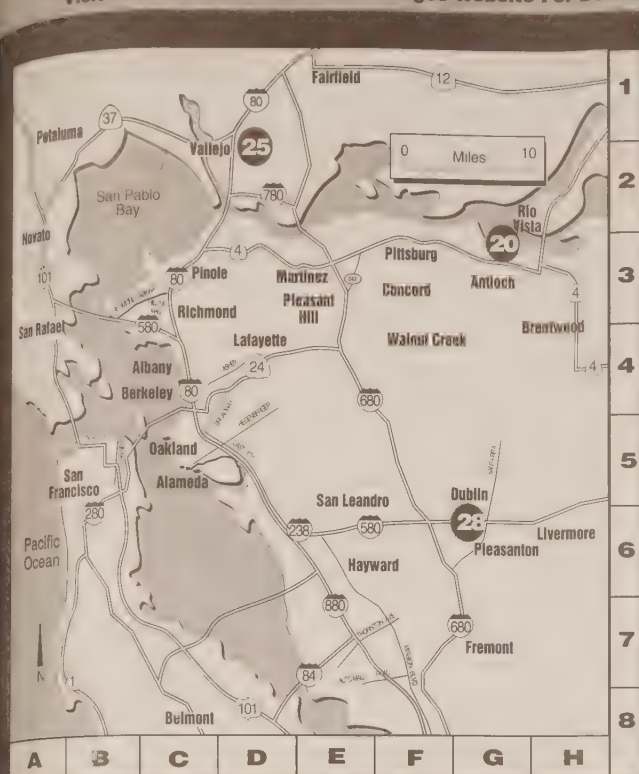
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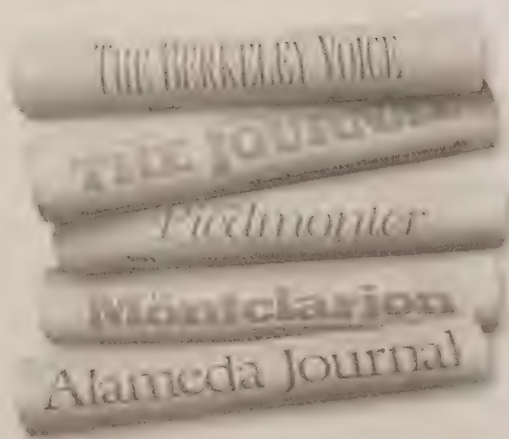
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GO PED, runs great, needs oil. \$1,500. \$1,000. Free delivery. (925) 925-2223

MERLIN Titanium frame 57CM, time fork, new Dura Ace components. \$1,200. \$800. Free delivery. (925) 925-2223

413 Arts & Crafts

Oil Painting, Anton (interior) 1978. \$1,200. \$800. Free delivery. (925) 925-2223

414 Wanted to Buy

CASH Paid/Gold coin, coins, dressers, strollers, etc. \$1,000. \$500. Free delivery. (925) 925-2223

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TOYS 20's-80's, G.I. Joe, Star Wars, Transformers, etc. \$1,000. \$500. Free delivery. (925) 925-2223

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WHEN YOU NEED TO SELL NOW TRY CLASSIFIED

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NOTICE See Today's Home & Business Services for Music Lessons & Services Advertising

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Fantastic teacher. Study on the Lagoon in Alameda. (510) 923-5512

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PIANO baby Grand, Circa 30. Approx 6'x4'6". Walnut finish \$5500. (925) 752-7975

PIANO baby grand, vintage

Chickering, mfg. Circa 1920. Walnut finish, approx. 6'x4'6". \$3500. (925) 925-7386

PIANO Baldwin Acrosong

Console with bench, mint. \$1400. (925) 370-7471

PIANO Baldwin console, \$1200 cord. perf. sound. \$1200. (925) 798-3179

PIANO Baldwin upright, \$1500. (925) 682-4702

PIANO Currier, Spinnett 75's model. Very good. \$500. (925) 925-2223

PIANO Kimball, oak cabinet, walnut, excel. cord. \$1200. (925) 925-0006

PIANO LESSONS, exp'd teacher & performer. Solist, S.F. Symphony, Stanford, etc. \$4 from U.C. Berkeley. Mail from Mills College. (925) 925-2223

PIANO Lowrey, Very good cord. 16 yrs old. Like new. \$1500. (925) 925-2223

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PIANO Steinway M, 8'7", reator, mint, excel. \$1500. (925) 925-01428

PIANO Stein, bench, walnut, kohn, & Campbell, gd. \$1100. (925) 925-6456

PIANO Upright Kimball, good. \$600. (925) 925-01428

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PIANO Yamaha upright, 8'7", reator, mint, excel. \$1500. (925) 925-01428

PIANO Yamaha, walnut, bench, good. \$1,000. (925) 925-01428

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ARIZONA flagstone, bricks, rewood deck board, 20'x6" U-Haul. 925-928-6136

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14'x14' rewood barnwood, 100'x100' U-Haul. (925) 928-6136

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laminated floor, still in boxes. Must sell. \$1.00/sq. ft. (510) 272-9356

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700 Real Estate Information & Announcements

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Housing Act of 1968, as amended, which makes it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, handicap, familial status or national origin, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Schumann Fine Papers, a national premier publisher and retailer of the paper products, creating careers, social expression stations, and on terms, seeks a Director of Accounting for its multi-faceted business in Fairfield. This candidate would supervise a staff and all accounting functions. Production of financial statements, some external reporting and direction of internal and external audits will be a requirement in this position. 10 years financial experience with experience in Excel and cash management along with five years minimum of supervisory knowledge. JD Edwards knowledge preferred. Background with a small to medium company helpful. Degree in Accounting required. E-mail your resume to: Hired@paycom.com or fax to 707-427-8103 EOE.

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Kerry Inc. a worldwide leader in the manufacture of quality food ingredients seeks a Plant Controller for its Union City, CA facility. Individual will oversee all plant financial and statistical data; monitor inventory control, budget preparation, and manage the existing accounting team. BA in Accounting, Finance or related field along with 5 years prior experience in a manufacturing business environment preferred. Must have an understanding of plant operations and excellent verbal/written communication skills. We offer a competitive salary and a comprehensive benefits package. Forward resume with salary history to: Kerry Inc., Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 6, Union City, CA 94586. Fax 913-780-3490. E-mail: kerryinc@kerrygroup.com or fax to 913-780-3490. EOE.

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Interior Design ASST needed for fast-paced, busy interior design firm. Send resume to: Human Resources, 1500 S. 1st St., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501. Fax: (925) 938-6817. E-mail: james@chambers.com

INVENTORY CONTROL

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE The Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano seeks an Inventory Control Clerk/Customer Service Rep for our Concord Warehouse. Send resume to: Human Resources, 1500 S. 1st St., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501. Fax: (925) 938-6817. E-mail: james@chambers.com

JANITOR/DAY PORTER

PT Days or nights. No exp. needed. (925) 938-6817. E-mail: james@chambers.com

JANITOR/HOUSEKEEPER

Female housekeeper needed for private home. Laundry duties. Evening hours. 4-8 hrs/week. 8am-1pm. Will train. Call Denise at (925) 938-6817. E-mail: james@chambers.com

LABORERS WANTED

Min 2 yrs. exp. in construction. No exp. nec. (707) 271-0286

LOAN OFFICERS

North American Mortgage Co. (NAC) is seeking experienced loan officers for its largest mortgage banking company in the nation. We are looking for experienced and motivated real estate loan professionals. We are currently looking for people with established relationships in the East Bay North American mortgage history of successful builder relationships and looking to expand its realtor and direct business. We maintain a variety of conventional, jumbo, PMA, CHFA, and Superprime

FUNDING

Min 2 yrs. funding or doc drawing exp. knowl. of RMA/FLM/C and portfolio guidelines. 401k. Pre-call. Must be Pro prof.

LOAN PROCESSOR

Min 2 yrs. processing exp. knowl. of RMA/FLM/C and portfolio guidelines. 401k. Pre-call. Must be Pro prof. and 10-key prof.

DOWNNEY SAVINGS

Excellent pay & 401(k). No exp. nec. (925) 938-6817. E-mail: james@chambers.com

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

For large youth-serving agency. Self starter/welcoming. mgmt. skills, superb comm. skills, problem solving skills. BA/BS or equiv. 2 yrs. customer service, community program or not-for-profit experience. Salary \$34,927 and excel. benefits incl. 4 weeks vacation.

Resume to HR-050, PO Box

2249, Oakland, CA 94621 or fax 510-633-7925. EEO/AA

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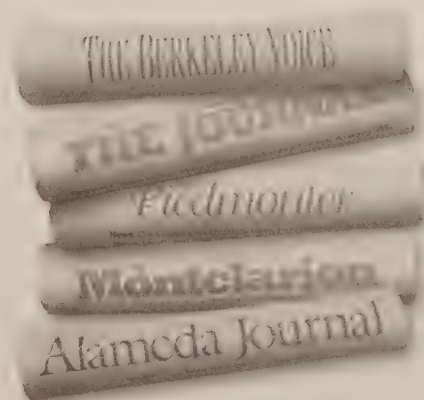
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250 Help Wanted

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20 Openings

\$11.10/hr. after training.

Need 2000 (All Shifts)

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Science Lab

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In microbiology at Los Angeles, CA 900-900-3300. Mon-Fri 8:30-5 pm. Mon-Thurs. 8:30-5 pm. Mon-Thurs. 8:30-5 pm. Find complete application info at www.townsend.com. Call 714-945-0178 or fax (925) 439-2185, 9305.

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Suite 100

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Case Manager-Pittsburg

Non-profit organization providing programs and services for children and adolescents. Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in child welfare, child abuse, and family services. Salary: \$26K-\$36K. Send resume and references to: Social Service, 1115 Broadway, Pittsburg, CA 94551. Fax: 925-887-0860.

250 Help Wanted

SOCIAL SERVICE

Program Coordinator

Non-profit organization providing programs and services for children and adolescents. Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in child welfare, child abuse, and family services. Salary: \$26K-\$36K. Send resume and references to: Social Service, 1115 Broadway, Pittsburg, CA

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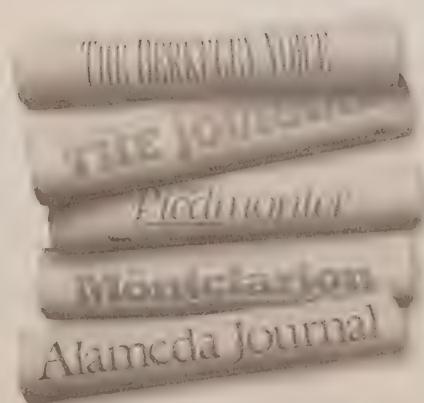
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on all 2001
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0% APR
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<p>CHEVROLET</p> <p>2002 Corvette Coupes Convertibles</p> <p>IN STOCK</p>  <p>0.0% APR 36 Mos 0.9% APR 48 Mos 2.9% APR 60 Mos</p>	<p>CHEVROLET</p> <p>2002 Avalanche 1500 4WD</p>  <p>\$4000 OFF MSRP</p>	<p>CHEVROLET</p> <p>2001 Silverado EX CAB 4x4</p> <p>1 At this price</p>  <p>\$26,450</p> <p>Includes \$1500 Factory Rebate Vin #172356</p>	<p>BUICK</p> <p>2002 Rendezvous CXL</p> <p>AWD, 4 DR., 3RD SEAT, LEATHER, CD STACKER, HEATED SEATS, PLUS MUCH MORE.</p> <p>1 At this price</p>  <p>\$3000 OFF MSRP and 0% Financing Vin #524956</p>
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2001 Park Avenue Ultra

\$6,500 OFF MSRP
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\$3,200 OFF MSRP
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they have not always been called
sandwiches.

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vorite lunch and all-purpose snack
after John Montague (1718-
1792), the fourth Earl of Sand-
wich and an infamous gambler.

According to legend, this gen-
tleman refused to leave the gam-
bling tables because he didn't want
to break his winning streak.

He asked for some bread filled
with meat to be brought to him —
and the rage for sandwiches was
born.

In 1940, Louis P. De Gouy pub-
lished his book "Sandwich Man-
agement for Professionals." His thor-
ough approach to the assembly
of sandwiches, based on his work
as a chef at New York City's famous
Madison Hotel, included
descriptions of hundreds of dif-
ferent sandwiches, organized into
specific categories.

This classic work has stood the
test of time; it's still a valuable
resource, full of practical infor-
mation and inspiration.

Sandwiches range from deli-
cate finger and tea sandwiches
served on doilies to "pan bagnat,"
traditionally served wrapped in
bain paper, sold from stalls in
southern France.

A sandwich can be an elegant
finger-sized morsel of foie gras
served on toasted brioche, or a
casual offering, such as a
grilled Reuben on rye, served with
ketchup and a pickle.

We can choose among a va-
riety of culinary traditions, from
Scandinavian smørbrød or
American favorites like the po'boy,
to Italian bruschetta and panini,
or Mexican tacos and burritos.

What unifies the term sand-
wich for the chef is that in all
cases it's a tasty filling served on
or in bread or a similar wrapper.

Cold sandwiches include stan-
dard deli-style versions made with
sliced meats or mayonnaise-
dressed salads. Club sandwiches,
also known as triple-decker sand-
wiches, belong in this category
as well.

Hot sandwiches such as ham-
burgers or pastrami of course fea-
ture a hot filling. Some hot sand-
wiches are grilled, as the Reuben
sandwich is. In other cases, a hot
filling is mounded on the bread
and the sandwich is topped with
a hot sauce, too.

Finger and tea sandwiches are
delicate items made with fine-
grained bread, trimmed of their
crusts and precisely cut into
shapes and sizes that can be
eaten in about two average bites.

The breads you can use to
make sandwiches run a fairly wide
gamut and include many ethnic
specialties.

Sliced white and wheat fine-
grained sandwich bread is used
for many cold sandwiches. The
tight crumb of this bread makes
it a good choice for those delicate
tea and finger sandwiches be-
cause it can be sliced thinly with-
out crumbling.

Special breads, buns, rolls and
wrappers are used to make many
ethnic or regionally inspired sand-
wiches. In all cases, the bread
should be firm enough and thick
enough to hold the filling, but not
so thick that the sandwich is too
dry to enjoy.

Many sandwiches call for a
spread, applied directly to the
bread before any filling goes on.
This adds a barrier to keep the
bread from getting soggy.
Spreads also add moisture to the
sandwich, and help it to hold to-



AP PHOTO/LORNA SMITH

EGGPLANT AND PROSCIUTTO PANINI are an Italian form of the sandwich, that handy combination of filling and bread or wrapper that's a worldwide staple. Here, the panini, Italian hard rolls, are filled with marinated eggplant, herbed ricotta cheese and prosciutto.

gether as it's picked up and
eaten.

Some sandwich fillings include
a "spread" element in the filling
mixture, so there is no need to
add a separate one when as-
sembling the sandwich.

Spreads can be very simple
and subtly flavored, or may add
their own special flavor and tex-
ture to the sandwich. The range
includes mayonnaise (plain or fla-

avored, such as aioli or rouille) or
other creamy salad dressings;
plain or compound butters; mus-
tard or ketchup; spreadable
cheeses, such as ricotta, cream
cheese, mascarpone or creme
fraiche; tahini, olive or herb
spreads; tapenade or pesto, for
example; nut butters; jelly, jam,
compotes, chutneys or other fruit
preserves; avocado pulp or gua-
camole, oils or vinaigrettes.

Sandwich fillings can be cold
or hot, substantial or minimal —
but they're always the focus of the
sandwich.

It is as important to properly
roast and slice turkey for club
sandwiches, as it is to be certain
that the watercress for tea sand-
wiches is perfectly fresh and com-
pletely rinsed and dried.

The filling should determine
how all the other elements of the

sandwich are chosen and pre-
pared, so that flavors and textures
work together in a tasty balance.

Choices available for sandwich
fillings are many and varied.
Among them are sliced, roasted
or simmered meats (beef, corned
beef, pastrami, turkey, ham, pates,
sausages); sliced cheeses; grilled,

See SANDWICHES Page 5

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Giving those burgers a new lease on life

BY RUTH FANTASIA
ALBANY TIMES-UNION

Just because you call it a burger, doesn't mean it has to be beef.

A burger can be made out of nearly anything that is ground or chopped into little bits and formed into a patty before cooking and being served between two pieces of bread. Oh yeah, you don't have to use sesame-seed buns either. Put your burger between two slabs of grilled sourdough, focaccia bread, or the halves of an English muffin.

And those condiments? Kill the ketchup. Go for chutney, flavored mayonnaise, salsa or cranberry sauce. The possibilities are endless.

Actually, what a burger is made of is less important than how it is cooked.

"A lot of people are under the mistaken belief that high heat sears the outside and holds in juices," says Marcel Desaulniers, author of "The Burger Meisters," a collection of burger recipes by alumni of the Culinary Institute of America. "Cook over high heat and you'll have hockey pucks," he says.

And instead of grilling, pan-fry, which uses a lower temperature, and enough fat to hold the burger together, says Desaulniers. "It's better to err on the side of slow cooking and have the food take a little longer," he says.

As for preventing the burgers from sticking, "Oil the pan well and you're not going to have any problems."

Other tips from "The Professional Chef" by the Culinary Institute of America (Wiley, 2001) include:

- Heat the pan before adding the oil or fat. Add enough oil to lightly film the pan, then add the rest of the oil or fat directed in the recipe.

- Allow the oil to heat to cooking temperature before adding the burgers. Place the burgers in the pan without them touching. Allow the burgers to sit undisturbed for a couple minutes or until the bottoms have developed the desired color.

- Turn the burgers and continue frying to the proper doneness. Be sure to allow for some carry-over cooking so that the burgers aren't overcooked by the time you put them on the bread.

Add condiments and sides and you will have built a better burger.

PLYMOUTH TURKEY BURGER

(Makes 4 servings)
1 tablespoon unsalted butter
1/2 cup finely diced onion
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 1/2 pounds ground turkey meat
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground pepper
1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
4 burger buns, toasted
Whole-berry cranberry sauce
4 tablespoons mayonnaise
Curly endive leaves, washed and dried

Heat the butter in a small nonstick saute pan over medium heat. When the butter is hot, add the onions and garlic, and saute until the onions are translucent, 3 to 4 minutes. Let cool. Combine turkey, salt, pepper and cooked vegetables gently but thoroughly. Gently form into 4 (1-inch-thick) burgers. Cover with plastic and refrigerate until needed.

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Place the bread crumbs in a pie tin or dinner plate. Place burgers, one at a time, in crumbs to coat. Heat well-seasoned flat griddle or large nonstick saute pan over medium-high heat. When hot, cook burgers 2 to 3 minutes on one side. Turn and press lightly with a spatula and cook an additional 2 to 3 minutes. Place burgers on baking sheet in the oven until cooked through, 14 to 18 minutes.

Spread each top and bottom bun half with mayonnaise and place endive on each bottom bun. Place turkey burgers on top of endive and top with cranberry sauce and top bun.

Adapted from a recipe by John Bowen, executive vice-president, Johnson & Wales University, Providence, R.I., as published in "The Burger Meisters."

JUMBO LUMP CRAB BURGER

5 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided
1/2 cup diced celery
1/2 cup thinly sliced scallions
Salt and pepper
3 tablespoons mayonnaise
2 tablespoons sour cream
1 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning
1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
1 pound fresh jumbo lump crab meat
4 English muffins, toasted
4 slices Swiss cheese

Heat 1 tablespoon butter in a small, nonstick saute pan over medium-high heat. When hot, add the celery and saute 2 minutes. Add scallions and season with salt and pepper. Remove to plate, cover and refrigerate.

In a large bowl, whisk mayonnaise, sour cream, Old Bay seasoning and lemon juice. Fold in the

cooked celery and scallions. Very gently fold in the crabmeat, being careful not to break up the pieces. Form the crabmeat mixture into 4 (1-inch-thick) burgers. Cover with plastic and refrigerate until needed.

Heat 1 tablespoon butter in a large nonstick saute pan over medium-high heat. When hot, pan-fry the burgers until golden brown, about 4 minutes on each side. Spread the remaining butter onto the split sides of the toasted muffins. Place the burgers on 4 English muffin halves. Top with a slice of cheese and remaining muffin halves.

Adapted from a recipe by Rodney Stoner, food and beverage director of The Greenbrier Hotel, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., as published in "The Burger Meisters."

SPICY MEXICAN BEAN BURGERS

(Makes 8 burgers)
1 (16-ounce) can red kidney beans, drained and mashed
1/2 cup small onion, chopped
1/2 green pepper, chopped
1 carrot, steamed and mashed
1/8 cup salsa
1 cup bread crumbs
1/2 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
Dash chili powder
Heat oven to 450 degrees.

Combine all ingredients. Add more flour to create a firmer mixture, or more salsa if mixture is too stiff. Form into balls and mash into patties.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes, until firm, brown and done. Serve on a whole-wheat bun with lettuce, tomato and salsa.

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Russian River Wine Road hosts wine, food affair

BUSINESS WIRE

SONOMA — Russian River Wine Road announces A Wine & Food Affair on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 3 and 4, 2001.

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As part of your weekend ticket price each guest will receive our Tasting Along the Wine Road cookbook, Vol. III. The participating wineries have

all submitted a recipe for the cookbook which they will prepare for you to sample during the event.

Guests travel from winery to winery sampling wine & food while taking in the breathtaking sights and sounds along the Wine Road. The Russian River Wine Road is located 60 miles north of San Francisco, just off Hwy. 101.

Tickets may be ordered online at www.wineroad.com, or by calling 800-723-6336. No tickets will be available at the event.

Low-fat cooking: tasty Steak Provencal

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The recipes in "Mr. Food's Quick & Easy Diabetic Cooking" (McGraw Hill-NTC, \$16.95 paperback) have been worked out to offer nutrition advantages that are of interest to others as well as to diabetics. This steak dish, for example, has only about seven grams of fat per serving — while being, yes, quick and easy to make.

The book has been compiled by Mr. Food, prolific cookbook author and television personality whose formal name is Art Ginsburg, in association with the American Diabetes Association. There are about 150 recipes offered, along with plentiful helpings of cooking and nutrition information, advice and analyses, even a few color photos.

STEAK PROVENCAL

1 tablespoon canola oil
1 pound boneless beef top sirloin steak, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 large onion, chopped

3 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 teaspoon black pepper



MR. FOOD'S QUICK & EASY DIABETIC COOKING

3 yellow squash, cut into 1-inch chunks
15-ounce can Great Northern

beans, rinsed and drained
14 1/2-ounce can diced tomatoes
2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil
2 cups loosely packed fresh spinach leaves, trimmed
1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese

In a soup pot, heat the oil over high heat. Add the steak, onion, garlic and pepper.

Saute for 6 to 8 minutes, or until the steak and onions are browned, stirring frequently.

Add the yellow squash, reduce the heat to medium, and cook for 3 to 4 minutes, or until the squash is tender.

Add the beans, tomatoes and basil; mix well. Cook for 3 to 4 more minutes, or until heated through.

Just before serving, stir in the spinach and cook for 2 to 3 minutes, or until the spinach wilts.

Sprinkle with the Parmesan cheese and serve.
Makes 6 servings.

An ideal time of year for many types of grapes

BY RUTH FANTASIA
ALBANY TIMES-UNION

Fresh grapes are best from mid-August to early October, when they are being harvested in states including Washington, California, Ohio and New York.

Most people think there are three kinds of grapes: red ones, green ones and black ones. But the truth is, there are more than 50 kinds of table grapes (as opposed to wine grapes) in production.

Fresh grapes are best from mid-August to early October, when they are being harvested in states including Washington, California, Ohio and New York.

Here are some grape facts from the University of Ohio Extension Service:

Selection: Unlike some fruit, grapes will not ripen after they have been harvested so you need to look for grapes at their peak when you buy them.

Green grapes are best when yellow-green in color; red varieties when the grapes are predominately red; and the blue-black varieties when the berries have a full rich color.

Look for grapes that are firm, plump and richly colored. They should be firmly attached to flexible green stems.

Dry and brittle stems are a sign of poor quality and wet grapes can indicate decay.

Storage: Keep grapes in the refrigerator, in a perforated plastic bag. Wash just before use by hold-

ing under cool running water and dry. Grapes are high in calories. They contain small amounts of potassium, phosphorus and vitamin C.

CORNISH GAME HENS

1 (10-ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup
1/4 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup seedless grapes
1 to 2 teaspoons parsley
2 teaspoons ground sage
Cloves, saffron and salt
4 Cornish game hens
Water as needed
1 cup honey
Parsley for garnish
Heat oven to 375°
Heat oil in medium skillet
Add onion and saute
Cook and stir
until onion is softened
Stir in grapes and
Season game hens
out with onion mixture
Place game hens in
roasting pan
Roast 25 minutes
Remove pan from oven
Pour enough water in
pan to measure 1/2
Spread honey over
to coat
Return to oven
350 degrees
Roast 15 minutes or
until tender
Remove from oven
platter and keep warm
Adjust thickness of
sauce with more honey and
cornsonings as desired.
Generously spoon
game hens. Garnish with
desired

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Dorm-kitchen fare ranges from macaroni and cheese to popped squirrel

BY JANE SNOW
KNIGHT RIDDER

College kids have cooked everything from melted-cheese sandwiches to wild game in their dorm room.

Yes, wild game.

"In the mid-1970s, dorm students were pretty much limited to a hot plate, if allowed by the fire code," wrote one anonymous e-mailer. "However, I once saw an out-dormsman undergraduate fry some squirrel in a popcorn popper."

The e-mailer was one of the readers who responded to our request for recipes that can be made in dorm rooms. The \$50 prize for the best recipe goes to Lindsay Rinehart of Cuyahoga

Falls, Ohio, a senior education major at Kent State University.

Although she doesn't live in a dorm now, Rinehart looks for simple recipes that can be made in a flash for breakfast or lunch. Her bacon, egg and cheese sandwich requires only a microwave and a toaster.

For her sandwich, Rinehart microwaves bacon, then microwaves scrambled eggs. Bread is browned in a toaster and cheese, bacon and egg are sandwiched between.

Microwave ovens are allowed in many dorm rooms, although toasters are banned at some universities. The University of Akron prohibits all appliances with ex-

posed heating coils, including toasters and electric skillets.

But that doesn't stop students from filling their tummies. Lea Michalos of North Canton, Ohio, who attends Ohio State University, makes grilled cheese sandwiches with an iron.

"Turn on the iron to a medium setting," she instructs. "Gently press sandwich for about one minute or until the cheese has melted. Be careful not to press too much or the sandwich will be completely flat."

Sara Fatula of Akron, who was a cadet at Norwich University in 1992, recalls heating Pop Tarts with an iron. (No word on how her uniform looked later).

We received recipes for fare made in toaster ovens, microwaves and hot pots.

Christine Kokoczka, a student at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, makes a ham and Swiss cheese sandwich with pickles in her George Foreman grill. To eat it, "clear a space on the couch and enjoy," she wrote. "This sandwich has been very good to me."

We like the recipe for a Pile of Food e-mailed by Frank Caetta, address unknown.

"First, let me start by noting that a Foreman Grill and microwaves are not dorm kitchen items," he wrote. "I use those in a real kitchen. I cooked

for myself for a summer using just a hot pot and a toaster oven."

His ad-libbed Pile of Food usually started with a box of macaroni and cheese. Whatever else was on hand was thrown in. Caetta sent a recipe for one of his more successful versions.

Boxed macaroni and cheese is a favorite dorm-room staple, and it is versatile. Another anonymous student gave directions for making cheese corn with a package of microwave popcorn and the cheese packet from a box of macaroni and cheese.

"It's been in our family for three generations and it smells great while it's cooking," he wrote.

LINDSAY'S QUICK SANDWICH

2 slices bacon
2 eggs
2 slices wheat bread
Mayo

2 slices American cheese

Cook bacon in a microwave oven for 2 minutes, turning halfway through. Set aside.

Crack eggs into a microwave safe bowl. Mix with a fork to break yolk. Microwave on high power for about 60 seconds longer if needed until eggs are cooked.

Meanwhile, toast bread in a toaster. Spread mayo on both sides. Place cheese on one side, then cooked egg and bacon with remaining slice of bread.

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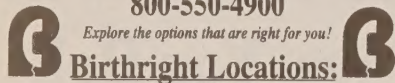
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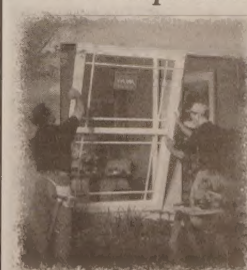


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Sandwiches

allow at least 3 days for the eggplant to fully marinate; it is well worth the wait.

EGGPLANT AND PROSCIUTTO PANINI

1/2 cup ricotta cheese
1 teaspoon chopped fresh basil
1/2 teaspoon coarse ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon chopped fresh oregano
1/2 teaspoon chopped fresh flat leaf parsley
1/4 teaspoon salt
Marinated Eggplant (recipe follows)
1/4 pound prosciutto, sliced thin
4 teaspoons oil reserved from marinated eggplant
4 Italian hard rolls

In a bowl, combine ricotta cheese and seasonings and mix well. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

For each sandwich, split a roll lengthwise and brush the inside with oil from the marinated eggplant. Spread a quarter of the herb ricotta mixture on one half of the roll and top with a quarter of the eggplant and prosciutto. Top with the other half of the roll.

Makes 4 sandwiches.

In the recipe for the Marinated Eggplant, the eggplant is not cooked, so it needs approximately three days to marinate. This allows the eggplant to completely denature and take on an almost cooked texture and flavor.

Marinated Eggplant Filling for Panini

1/2 pound Italian eggplant
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 cup extra virgin olive oil
1 garlic clove, crushed

2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
1 tablespoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon dried basil
1 teaspoon coarse grind black pepper
Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes

Slice eggplant into 1/8-inch slices. Layer slices in a colander, salting each layer liberally. Let sit 1 hour. Rinse off bitter liquid and dry slices with paper towels or in a salad spinner.

Mix remaining ingredients. Toss eggplant slices in marinade, cover and refrigerate for 3 to 4 days. Stir every day. The eggplant is ready when the flesh has become relatively translucent and no longer tastes raw.

Makes enough for 4 sandwiches.

All recipes adapted from "Garde Manger: The Art and Craft of the Cold Kitchen" by The Culinary Institute of America, Wiley, 2000.

TURKEY CLUB SANDWICH

1/2 pound white fine-grained sandwich bread, lightly toasted
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
2 slices green leaf lettuce, washed and dried
2 slices roasted turkey breast, sliced thin
2 slices tomato
2 slices cheddar cheese, cut in half, cooked until crisp, drained

For each sandwich: Spread 3/4 teaspoon of toast with mayonnaise. Top with a slice of lettuce, a slice of turkey and a slice of ham. Add a quarter of the turkey and ham. Top with a second piece of toast. Add 1 slice of lettuce, 2 tomato slices and 3 half strips of bacon. Finish with the remaining toast. Secure with 4 club grill picks, and cut in 4 triangles.

Makes 4 sandwiches.

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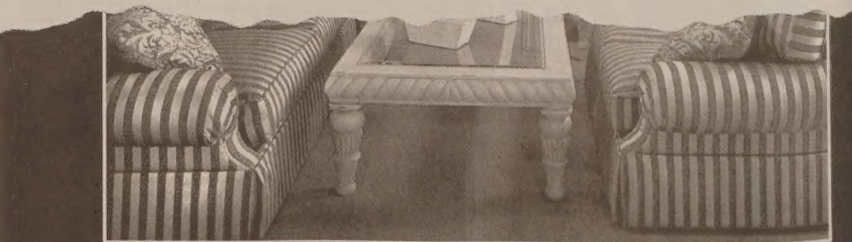
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